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The meteoric rise of Loren Legarda

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Eddie Gil: I'll pay off country's debts

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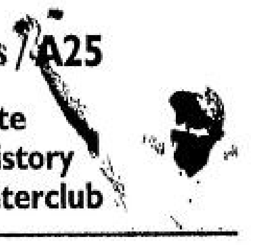
Martha Stewart found guilty, faces 20 years in jail

■ Entertainment / C1

Pa, ma, hubby fight over body of Halina Perez

■Sports / A25

Del Monte makes history in PAL interclub



New improved Gloria with Mona Lisa smile

By Juliet Labog-Javellana

JUST LIKE the Mona Lisa's, the new presidential smile is a puzzle even to the one wearing it.

But one thing is for sure: recent developments in the presidential campaign have given President Macapagal-Arroyo a reason to

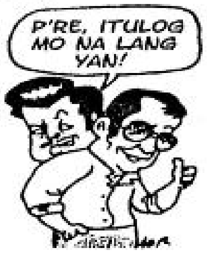
NEW/ A20

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER Sunday

BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Erap's advice to FPJ: Get plenty of sleep

By Christine O. Avendaño



P'RE, ITULOG MO NA LANG YAN!

TACLOBAN CITY—"Get enough sleep."

This was the advice of seasoned politician and former President Joseph

ERAP'S/ A8

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GMA faces criminal raps

Private lawyers say Estrada's country-style detention illegal

By Armand N. Nocum and Gil Cabacungan Jr.

PRIVATE prosecutors are preparing to file criminal complaints against President Macapagal-Arroyo and other ranking government officials for the "country club arrest" of ousted President Joseph Estrada.

In a statement, lawyer Marichu Lambino of the Public Interest Law Center (PILC) said Ms Macapagal, Philippine National Police Director General Hermogenes Ebdane, Housing Secretary Mike Defensor, Chief Supt. Rolando Sacramento and all the guards of Estrada were "liable for the crimes of conniving with or consenting with evasion of imprisonment punishable under Article 223 of the Revised Penal Code and of usurpation of functions punishable under Article 241 of the [same code.]"

Lambino said all those named were likewise "liable for contempt of court" for disobeying the Sandiganbayan order that Estrada should be detained at Camp Capinpin in Tanay, Rizal, for the duration of his trial.

Reliable sources had told the INQUIRER that Estrada was practically under house arrest because he had moved to a rest house on his 15-hectare vacation estate across from Camp Capinpin.

Ms Macapagal confirmed this unusual arrangement on Thursday night but said it was not her decision.

Estrada himself said on Friday that he stayed at the rest house only two days a week, and only when he had guests.

Yesterday, he complained of the "tightened" security at his detention quarters and denied that he was living in style at his rest house.

"Even if they allow me to stay in a palace, I am still in detention and my freedom of

GMA/ A20

MALACAÑANG PHOTO

FLASHING the "improved" presidential smile, Ms Macapagal speaking in Cebuano engages the people of Bukidnon in the provincial capital grounds of Malaybalay on Saturday, during their Kaamulan thanksgiving festival which celebrates the customs, costumes and traditions of the province's seven ethnic hill tribes. Except for two mayors out of 22 towns and two cities, local officials led by Gov. Jose Zubiri and his son Rep. Miguel Zubiri pledged full support for the President's election bid.

Talking peace makes foes the best of friends

By Christian V. Esguerra

THE NEWLY resumed negotiations may still not end the long-running communist insurgency in the Philippines, but there's friendship between and among the men and women who have been talking peace for more than a decade now.

Outside the sessions, Jose Ma. Sison, Luis Jalandoni, Romeo Capulong, Silvestre Bello III and Jose "Apeng" Yap are just another wacky gang. They joke, they gossip, they have fun.

Bello, chief negotiator for the Philippine government, recalls one instance when he "sneaked" Sison out of the latter's apartment in Utrecht, the Netherlands. They drove to Germany, and had the time of their lives.

"We dined out, enjoyed the breathtaking landscape," Bello tells the INQUIRER.

It was a rare treat for Sison, founding chair of the Communist Party of the Philippines, whose world had been severely circumscribed since he went on self-exile in the Netherlands in 1988.

Independence Day 2001 was party time for the Filipino peace negotiators in Oslo, Norway.

Bello remembers it well. Sison and himself doing a duet on the videoke. Jalandoni, chief negotiator of the National Democratic Front, crooning "My Way." The others dancing. The rest feasting on *pancit, adobo, sinigang* and rice, prepared by a Norwegian cook in the best way he could.

"Those who have seen us party would never think we're on opposite sides of

TALKING/ A21

NO TO DEATH PENALTY

This 'ukay-ukay' buff saves lives

RANDY HORMILLOSA

PERSIDA RUEDA-ACOSTA, chief, Public Attorney's Office: Everytime I am used by God to save a life, I feel like I'm in heaven. Strict and thorough law enforcement is the most effective deterrent.

By Philip C. Tubeza

THIS GUTSY *ukay-ukay* shopper saves lives.

Although she heads an office that is undermanned and under-funded, the country's chief public defender, Persida Rueda-Acosta has, at last count, saved 314 convicts wrongfully sentenced to death.

Her most recent victory was the Supreme Court order to reopen the case of convicted kidnappers Roberto Lara and Roderick Licayan.

Chief Justice Hilario Davide Jr. has publicly praised the Public Attorney's Office that Acosta heads for helping the high court in its task of reviewing death penalty cases.

Feb. 19, the day the SC came out with the Lara-Licayan ruling, marked Acosta's third year as PAO chief.

In a recent interview with the INQUIRER, Acosta talked about her life's passion—her work and the law.

"Every time I am utilized by God to save a life, I feel like I'm in heaven," she said of her work, which has led to the acquittal of 44 death convicts and the reduction of the life sentences imposed on 270 others.

Licayan and Lara were convicted in 1999 of the 1998 kidnapping of businessman Joseph Tomas Co and his assistant Linda Manaysay.

The Supreme Court affirmed their conviction and death sentence in 2001 and in a subsequent appeal. But last month, the high court first ordered a stay of execution while it studied the new evidence and finally a retrial of the two men.

Besides taking up the cudgels for death row inmates, the PAO provides free legal services to indigents. But it can also be ordered by a judge to handle cases of wealthy individuals needing immediate legal help.

Acosta herself was assigned to defend oust-

THIS/ A8

'Thanks, Sandra, for being there when we were alone'

THE FILIPINO friends of Time Magazine's foreign correspondent emeritus, Sandra Burton, fondly remembered her Friday night with a Mass celebrating her life at the historic Edsa Shrine organized by former President Cory Aquino.

"What a beautiful person she was," the former President said of the American journalist, who died in Bali last Saturday.

In his homily, Bishop Socrates Villegas said that the Edsa I revolt forged friendships that "contributed significantly to how we won back democracy from the clutches of dictatorship ... Indeed Edsa 1 brought about freedom, peace and true friends."

Sandra Burton was an Edsa friend, Villegas added.

"Ms Burton, thank you for spending time with us, for being with us and telling the world about us when we felt most alone as a country and as a people. Thank you for being our friend, when we most needed good friends. We pray that we may always be worthy of the legacy that your friendship has given us," the auxiliary bishop of Manila concluded.

Time Manila correspondent Nelly Sindayen read a tribute from Burton's editors in Time—Normal Pearlstine, editor in chief, and James Kelly, managing editor.

"Time Magazine is built on the strength of its reporters and with the death of Sandra Burton we lost one of the best who ever worked for the magazine," the editors said in their letter, which traced Burton's career at Time from being a secretary to postings in Los Angeles, Boston, Paris and Hong Kong where she was bureau chief and responsible for all of Southeast Asia.

"But the work with which she made a mark in history was done in the Philippines," the editors said. She was on the plane that morning of Aug. 21, 1983, and barely left the country in the 29 months in which that tragic event came to its awe-inspiring conclusion with the swearing in of Corazon Aquino. The tape recording she made on the plane when Ninoy Aquino was killed helped bring out the truth in the investigation of his death—something we are as proud of as the clarity she delivered in the pages of the magazine..."

Aquino recalled she and Burton first met after the funeral of her husband and national hero, Benigno "Ninoy" Aquino, and how that meeting blossomed into a wonderful friendship.

Aquino said she once asked Sandra to "write something nice about" her when her "time would come."

"She just laughed at the idea," the former President said. "I still find it hard to believe that Sandra is gone."

The last speaker after Mass was Robert Delfs, Burton's companion of 22 years, who flew in from Indonesia for the memorial.

Delfs said the last 10 months with Burton had been their happiest as a couple.

Before their life in Bali, they were often away from each other for extended periods—something both of them had accepted, he said.

Delfs said that when Sandra joined him in Bali last May, they would walk together along the sea every day before breakfast.

Sandra's sister Stephanie had recently passed away and the couple thought Bali would be the place where Sandra could

THANKS/ A8

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Northern and Northeastern Luzon, Bicol Region, Visayas and Mindanao including Palawan will experience cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms becoming widespread over Eastern Mindanao.

SOURCE: PAGASA

COMPILED BY: RAY LEYESA, PDI RESEARCH/03/07/04

Metro Manila	Partly Cloudy	Iloilo/Bacolod	Cloudy with Rains
Baguio	Partly Cloudy	Roxas	Cloudy with Rains
Tuguegarao	Cloudy with Rains	Cebu	Cloudy with Rains
Laoag	Cloudy with Rains	Tacloban	Cloudy with Rains
Clark Zone	Partly Cloudy	Gen. Santos	Cloudy with Rains
Tagaytay	Partly Cloudy	Zamboanga	Cloudy with Rains
Legazpi	Cloudy with Rains	Cagayan de Oro	Cloudy with Rains
Calapan	Partly Cloudy	Davao	Cloudy with Rains

E-mail: pr_news@inquirer.com.ph

Second FRONTPAGE

Erap withdraws travel request

By Armand N. Nocum

NO TIME. No visa. No travel.

Unable to secure a visa that would allow him to go to the Unite States for a knee-replacement operation, ousted President Joseph Estrada yesterday asked his court-appointed lawyers to withdraw his motion for travel for "medical reasons."

Instead, Estrada will ask the Sandiganbayan's special division, which is hearing his plunder and graft cases, to allow him to get weekly therapy treatments at the Cardinal Santos Medical Center in San Juan.

"In place of the US trip and due to my deteriorating health, I will ask the court to allow me to undergo therapy with a doctor of my choice at least once a week," said Estrada in a phone call to the INQUIRER yesterday.

The therapy involves the use of a "traction" machine which would relieve the pain on his arthritic knees and his back.

Estrada said he instructed former Sandiganbayan Justice Manuel Pamaran—one of his four court-appointed lawyers—to withdraw the "urgent motion" they filed on Nov. 4 asking the court to grant him "permission to travel to the United States for medical reasons."

In his motion, Estrada said that there was "urgent need for surgery to be done on his knees and on his lumbosacral (spinal column) section," lest "paralysis result."

He also asked that US doctor Christopher Mow of the Stanford University Medical Center perform the operation.

The first division, chaired by Presiding Justice Minita Chico-Nazario, granted Estrada's motion on Dec. 23, with the condition that he submit his travel plan and comply with other conditions set by the court.

The court set the deadline on March 31 for the operation, therapy and Estrada's return to the country.

In last Wednesday's hearing, Pamaran said the former President had not been issued a US visa. Nor had they finalized plans for the operation with other US doctors after negotiations with Mow bogged down. Mow was charging Estrada an exorbitant price for the surgery.

"I have asked my lawyers to withdraw the motion to travel until after we have secured a US visa. If the visa is released, then we will revive our motion," said Estrada, who has been waiting for a US visa for two months now.

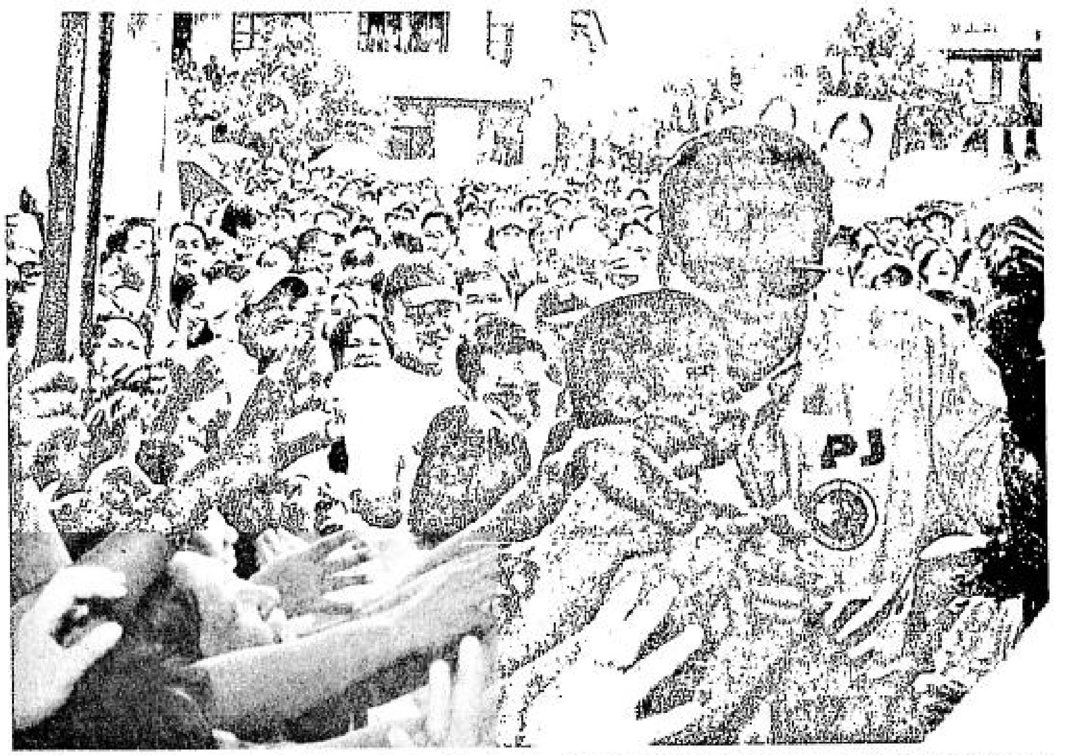
His allies, including his wife Sen. Loi Estrada, earlier said that they were having problems with American laws that restrict the entry of political leaders to the US if they had problems in their home countries.

However, Estrada announced in December that he was foregoing his trip to the US to help in the presidential campaign of his buddy, Fernando Poe Jr. Estrada later withdrew the announcement after prosecutors pointed out that the news confirmed their suspicions that Estrada did not really want to leave the country.

In Wednesday's hearing, Special Prosecutor Dennis Villa-Ignacio noted that with the many doctors in the Estrada and Ejercito family, not to mention Estrada's stature and resources, it was "unthinkable" that he could not immediately negotiate for a new doctor and hospital, given the former President's supposed serious medical condition.

He added that all these delays showed that Estrada was "not... never interested" in leaving the country.

Nazario expressed the same view, adding that the reason they granted Estrada the authority to travel was because of the "extreme danger" of his medical condition.



IT'S back to kissing babies for Fernando Poe Jr. after the Supreme Court ruled he can run for president, in the Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya leg of his campaign. EDWIN BACASMAS

Envoys meet with FPJ to ask about his plans

By Christine O. Avendaño

TACLOBAN CITY— Eighteen foreign ambassadors have already met with opposition standard-bearer Fernando Poe Jr., eager to find out what his platform of government is and how he intends to solve the country's problems.

Poe said he met with the ambassadors, including US Ambassador Francis Ricciardone, on their invitation.

"They have been inviting all the presidential candidates," Poe told reporters here.

Poe said their discussions centered on security, particularly Mindanao and the communist New People's Army, and terrorism.

Asked what his stand was on terrorism, he said: "We don't negotiate with terrorists."

Poe said he would meet on Tuesday with representatives of the 50 foreign observers in the May 10 elections.

At the same time, Poe did not deny that he was seeking the support of the influential Iglesia Ni Cristo.

On the third day of his campaign sortie in the Eastern Visayas, Poe took time out to visit an INC chapel here yesterday.

He said he always made it a point to visit an INC chapel whenever he had the opportunity to do so and when INC leaders invited him to visit.

He said he had yet to meet with INC leader Eraño Manalo.

Poe also took time out on Friday night to pay a courtesy call on Leyte Gov. Remedios Petilla, who is with the administration Lakas-CMD party.

The movie actor said he and Petilla did not talk about politics—the visit was just to say hello.

Accompanying Poe were Sen. Vicente Sotto and Ilocos Norte Rep. Imee Marcos.

Petilla told reporters that Poe's party had sought the visit and she agreed to receive them.

As to the rumors that the opposition was courting her support, she said they did not talk about it.

Petilla said she belongs to Lakas and was supporting President Macapagal-Arroyo.

She said the people of Leyte also supported the President when she ran for vice president in 1998.

Asked whether Poe was strong in her province, Petilla said she heard Poe "has a good following here."

But she noted that the President, who will be campaigning in the province on March 17 and 18, "might be able to generate more if not the same interest" as Poe.

Samar rally sabotaged, opposition charges

By Christine O. Avendaño

CATBALOGAN CITY—The opposition Koalisyon ng Nagkakaisang Pilipino yesterday protested what it claimed was an attempt to sabotage its rally in Borongan, Eastern Samar.

Sen. Vicente Sotto, campaign manager of KNP presidential candidate Fernando Poe Jr., said the electricity was cut off at the rally site in Borongan, prompting the organizers to look for a generator to be able to continue with the program.

Sotto also claimed that attempts had been made to prevent people from attending the KNP rally.

Days before the rally, he said, a jeep went around town saying Poe would not show up for the occasion.

Text messages also went around saying that the KNP rally was not pushing through and the government-owned Radyo ng Bayan had been announcing until yesterday that there would be no rally.

"There was a strategized move to sabotage our rally," Sotto said.

But people still flocked to the KNP rally in Borongan, he said.

The night before in Tacloban City in neighboring Leyte, the KNP rally had to be cut short when an unruly crowd rushed the stage after it began to rain.

It was the first time since Poe began campaigning that a rally of his became frenzied.

"I was surprised. I felt sorry for the people because of the rain," Poe said of Friday night's rally at the RR Plaza in Tacloban.

He said there seemed to be some difficulty in containing the crowds that he passed to get to the rally site.

To comments that some of those who had attended the Friday night rally appeared to be drunk and rowdy, Poe said: "They were just having a happy hour."

Sotto said the program had to be cut short because of the "jubilantly wild" crowd.

Poe's running mate Sen. Loren Legarda was not able to sing because the crowd had swarmed the stage.

Poe also had to cut his speech short.

Sotto said the KNP people would also look into an incident in which someone threw something on stage in the middle of the program.

In Carigara town, a helicopter carrying Poe was forced to land at another site to avoid a swarm of people that rushed to meet it.

Poe's Bell helicopter and another one carrying KNP staff twice circled the open field of the Leyte Institute of Technology and twice had to abort their landing.

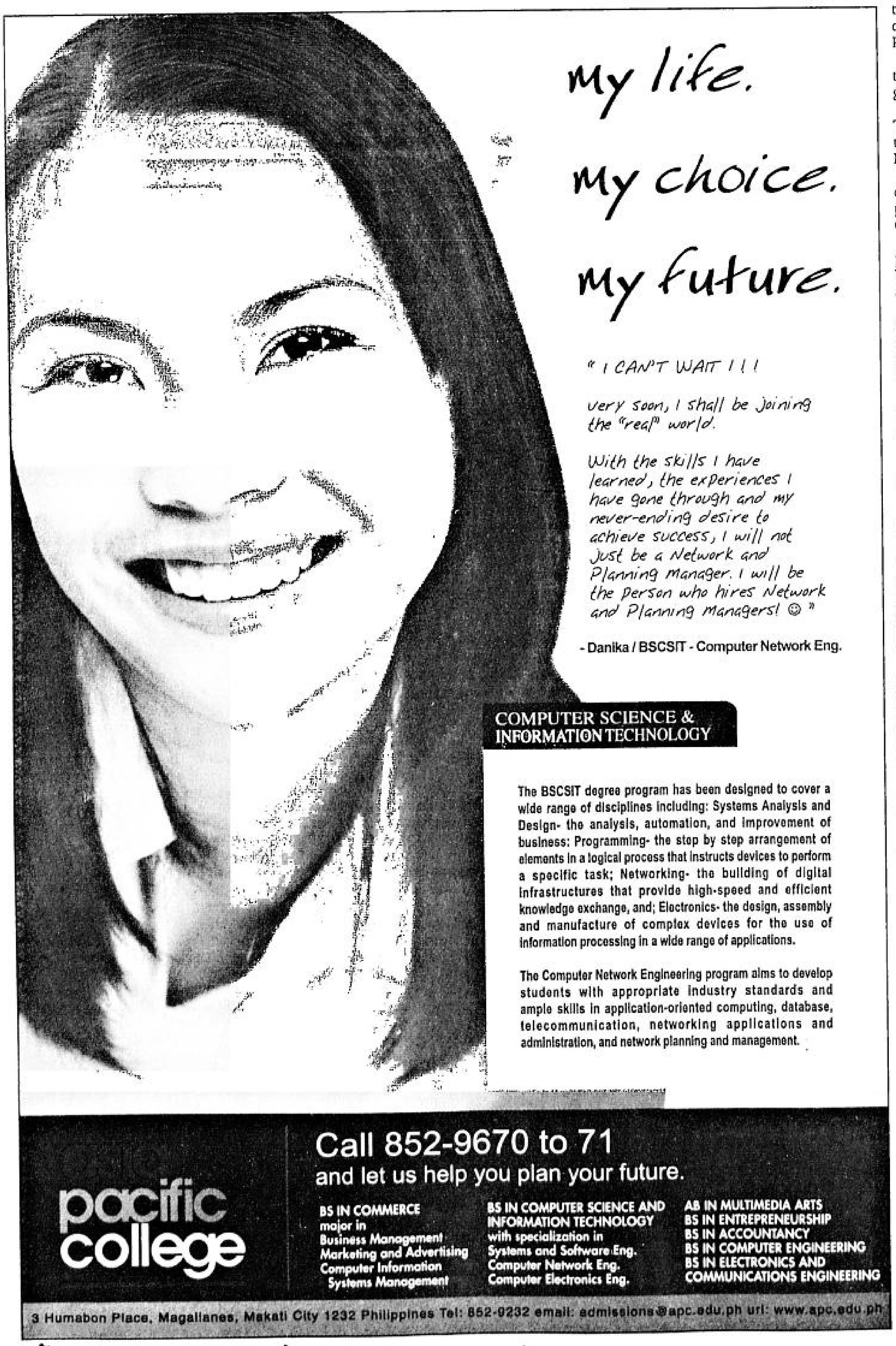
"*Sobra ang mga tao, di makontrol ang mga tao*(There were too many people, they could not be controlled)," said Sotto, who was with Poe's, actor Eddie Garcia and Vince Dizon, an aide of Poe, in the helicopter.

Some 1,000 residents, mostly children and teenagers, eagerly awaited the arrival of Poe's party which was coming from a campaign sortie in Naval, Biliran province.

Eventually, the helicopters were able to land at the Carigara Central School, some 2 km from the original landing site.

At a news conference at the Leyte Park Hotel in Tacloban, Poe smartly fended off a question from a reporter who asked him how his sex life was.

"How's yours?" shot back the star who has been married for 36 years to actress Susan Roces.



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Ping: GMA used P728M for 'favors'

By Anselmo Roque
PDI Central Luzon Desk

CABANATUAN CITY—Accusing President Macapagal-Arroyo of "virtual vote-buying" presidential candidate Panfilo "Ping" Lacson yesterday said his rival for the presidency had authorized the release of P728 million to "favored" congressmen, governors and mayors to buy farm inputs like fertilizer and pesticides for their constituents.

Lacson said the President's action showed she was using government money to buy (local officials') support in the coming elections. "It's already harvest time. Why are they releasing funds for farm inputs?" he asked.

The money was released to the Department of Agriculture through an advice of Special Allotment Release Order (SARO), Lacson claimed, adding that the SARO issued to the DA was signed by Budget Secretary Emilia Boncodin through Budget Undersecretary Mario Relampagos on Feb. 3. Photocopies of the SARO were released to the press by Lacson's camp when he met with local leaders at the Acropolis North Resort and Country Club here on Saturday.

Lacson said the P728 million, made to appear as part of the Ginintuang Masaganang Ani Project of the DA, was to be released to 105 congressmen (P465 million), 53 governors (P405 million) and 23 city and town mayors (P56 million) who were allies of the President.

The governors were allotted P5 million each; congressmen, P3 million to P5 million each; and city and town mayors, P2 million to P5 million each, with some of them already pocketing the money, Lacson claimed.

Among those who were reportedly allotted funds were Speaker Jose de Venecia (Pangasinan) and Reps. Benigno "Noynoy" Aquino III (Tarlac), Wilfrido Villarama (Bulacan), Ruben Torres (Zambales), Jose Salceda (Albay), Augusto Syjuco (Iloilo), Raul Gonzalez (Iloilo), Monico Puentevella (Bacolod City), Gerardo Espina (Biliran), Juan Miguel Zubiri (Bukidnon), Robert Ace Barbers (Surigao del Norte) and Prospero Pichay (Surigao del Sur).

A six-page list of the names of governors and mayors who were allotted funds was also furnished by Lacson, naming Malabon-Navotas Rep. Federico Sandoval II and Quezon City Rep. Ma. Theresa Defensor as among those with P3-million allocations each.

"There are no farms in their districts and yet they were given the amounts to buy fertilizer and pesticides," Lacson said. No one from the opposition, which includes the Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino and Partido ng Masang Pilipino parties, were allocated funds, he said.

The presidential aspirant said he was also looking into reports that the administration had been using public money for medicines to be given to voters.

Not behind case reopening–GMA

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday denied having a hand in the revival of the Kuratong Baleleng rubout case against rival presidential candidate Sen. Panfilo Lacson.

In a press conference at the Pines Hotel in Malaybalay, Bukidnon, Ms Macapagal curtly said "no" when asked if she was behind the Supreme Court's move to discuss the possible reopening of the Kuratong Baleleng case in an en banc session last Tuesday.

The high court's en banc session was held after the Office of the Solicitor General filed a petition for certiorari seeking a reopening of the case.

Gil Cabacungan Jr.

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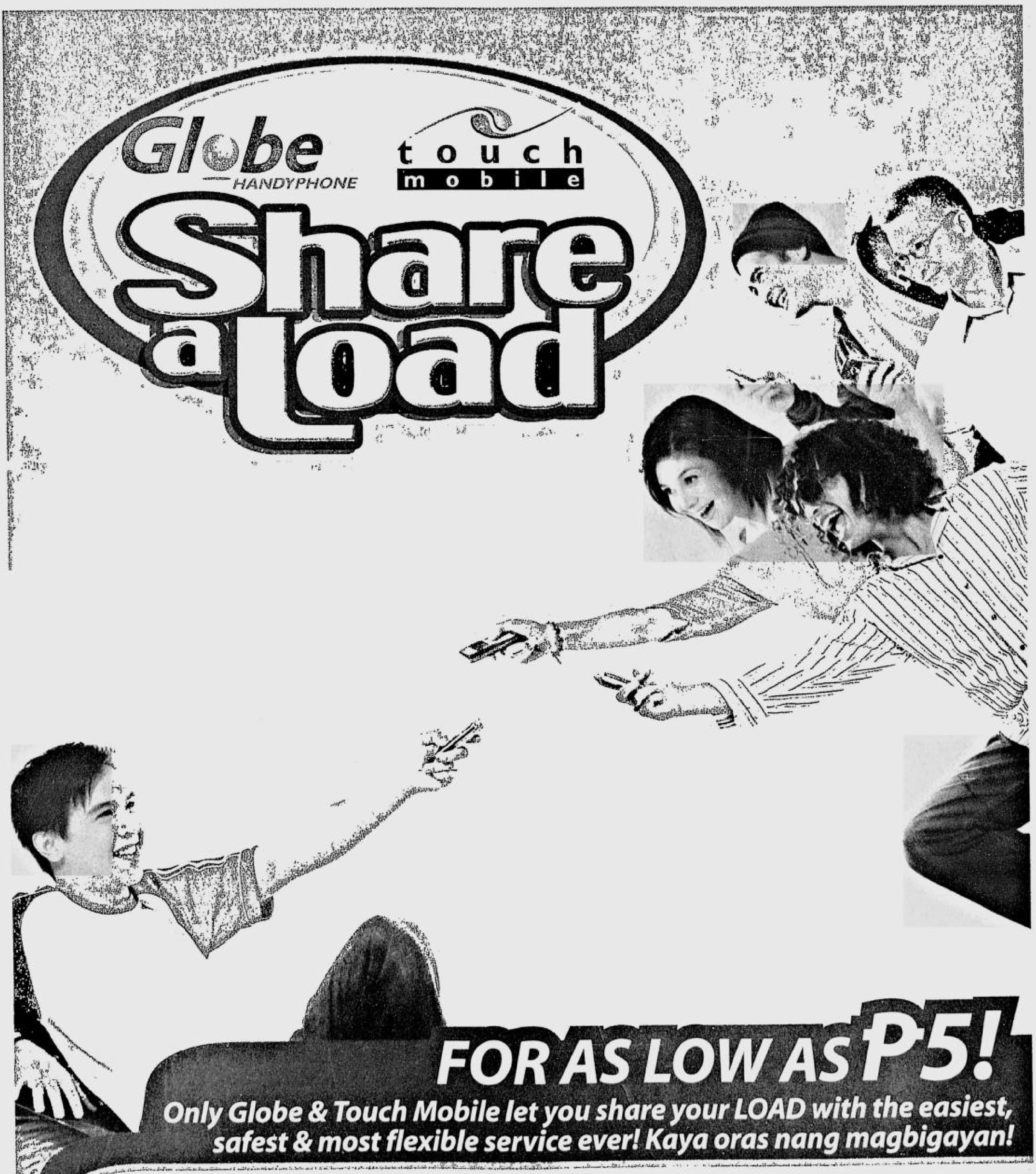

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P100	15 days	60 days
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BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Holes bored in ferry to speed up recovery

By Leila B. Salaverria

RESCUERS yesterday bored two holes in the half-submerged SuperFerry 14 to facilitate the retrieval of bodies believed trapped inside the ship which caught fire in Manila Bay last week with 899 passengers on board.

Philippine Coast Guard Commodore Wilfredo Tamayo said the two holes were bored in the port or left side of the ferry, which had listed on its starboard or right side in shallow waters off Mariveles in Bataan.

At least 15 bodies have been recovered from the ill-fated ship but 119 people are still missing. More than 700 other passengers and crew had been rescued.

The holes would allow rescuers to enter the ship along with their rescue gear and make it easier to retrieve the bodies found inside the wreck.

Tamayo said boring the holes was necessary because rescuers were having a hard time hauling the bodies out of the tilted ship.

He told the INQUIRER the lack of footholds and handholds for the rescuers made retrieval operations difficult. Debris also still covered parts of the A-deck, where some of the bodies are believed trapped.

On Friday, rescuers spotted a total of seven bodies. One body, a torso and a skull were retrieved on the same day. The body was identified as that of Nelson Juarez through an identification card found in his wallet.

Yesterday, three of the five bodies found on Friday were also retrieved. But their genders could not be determined as they were in an advanced stage of decomposition, said PCG commandant Vice Admiral Arthur Gosingan.

"Some pieces are just a hand, a leg, or even a head," Gosingan said, refusing to speculate on why the bodies were in such a condition.

The three bodies retrieved yesterday brought to 15 the total number of dead retrieved from the ill-fated ship. Two other bodies found still had to be recovered.

On Feb. 27, the body of a male passenger was taken from the ship while three remains were retrieved on Wednesday, six on Thursday, two on Friday, and three by mid-afternoon yesterday. Of these bodies, only seven had so far been identified.

Tamayo said yesterday that search and retrieval operations would continue until all passengers had been accounted for.

PCG divers are being assisted by operatives from the Bureau of Fire Protection's special reaction unit, the Navy, the Makati rescue teams and volunteers from the PCG auxiliary.

SuperFerry 14 was on its way from Manila to Bacolod and Cagayan de Oro cities when it caught fire shortly after midnight on Feb. 27. Survivors said they heard an explosion prior to the fire.

The Abu Sayyaf had claimed responsibility for the fatal fire, but authorities have ruled out sabotage as the cause.

Authorities had hoped that many of those missing had been rescued by smaller vessels or had simply neglected to check in. *With an AFP report*

CREAM OF PMA CROP

This year's top 3 graduates of PMA Maliyab Class, from left, Rolly Juaquin, Julia Javier and Gerald Philip join hands during rehearsals for the controversial March 14 graduation of their batch. See story on *Page A9*.

TOOTS SOBERANO/PDI NORTHERN LUZON BUREAU

Kin protest suspected rebels' arrest in Tagaytay

By Tarra Quismundo

THE FAMILIES of six persons arrested with 20 others in a raid on an alleged rebel safehouse in Tagaytay City Thursday said they were having sleepless nights not knowing the whereabouts of their relatives and raised fears they could disappear without a trace.

"In the history of military raids in this country, some of those who went missing after being arrested never returned. We just want to see them alive," said Ana Gadian at a press conference the other day.

Her husband Harold, a peasant organizer in Bataan, was among those arrested by the military at a suspected New People's Army lair in Barangay Mendez, Tagaytay City, two days ago. Nothing has been heard of Gadian since.

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The officers then got their names and addresses and took their bags, documents, cellular phones and other belongings, Cabe said. Those who were out at that time were met by police on their way back to the house. Cabe claimed these men were mauled by the raiders. They were later ordered to board two vans and a bus.

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Oil firms offer more but smaller diesel discounts

By Abigail L. Ho

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Kanapi said that on the part of Shell it made sense to slash the discounts it offered in Metro Manila and add to the markdown it recently started offering to drivers in the provinces so that it could help more people all over the country.

This also allowed the firm to expand the coverage of its diesel discounts to 50 stations from 19, he added.

Petron, on the other hand, raised the number of stations offering diesel discounts to the public transport sector from 47 to 50.

"We're implementing a P1 uniform discount on diesel so that the benefits of our discount scheme could reach a larger number of people," Petron officials said.

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Following a clamor from transport groups in the rest of Luzon over the past weeks, the oil firms then started offering discounts in outlets located in key cities outside Metro Manila.

The diesel discounts, however, were confined to Luzon and were lower than the Metro Manila markdown at 30 centavos.

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Holes bored in ferry to speed up recovery

By Leila B. Salaverria

RESCUERS yesterday bored two holes in the half-submerged SuperFerry 14 to facilitate the retrieval of bodies believed trapped inside the ship which caught fire in Manila Bay last week with 899 passengers on board.

Philippine Coast Guard Commodore Wilfredo Tamayo said the two holes were bored in the port or left side of the ferry, which had listed on its starboard or right side in shallow waters off Mariveles in Bataan.

At least 15 bodies have been recovered from the ill-fated ship but 119 people are still missing. More than 700 other passengers and crew had been rescued.

The holes would allow rescuers to enter the ship along with their rescue gear and make it easier to retrieve the bodies found inside the wreck.

Tamayo said boring the holes was necessary because rescuers were having a hard time hauling the bodies out of the tilted ship.

He told the INQUIRER the lack of footholds and handholds for the rescuers made retrieval operations difficult. Debris also still covered parts of the A-deck, where some of the bodies are believed trapped.

On Friday, rescuers spotted a total of seven bodies. One body, a torso and a skull were retrieved on the same day. The body was identified as that of Nelson Juarez through an identification card found in his wallet.

Yesterday, three of the five bodies found on Friday were also retrieved. But their genders could not be determined as they were in an advanced stage of decomposition, said PCG commandant Vice Admiral Arthur Gosingan.

"Some pieces are just a hand, a leg, or even a head," Gosingan said, refusing to speculate on why the bodies were in such a condition.

The three bodies retrieved yesterday brought to 15 the total number of dead retrieved from the ill-fated ship. Two other bodies found still had to be recovered.

On Feb. 27, the body of a male passenger was taken from the ship while three remains were retrieved on Wednesday, six on Thursday, two on Friday, and three by mid-afternoon yesterday. Of these bodies, only seven had so far been identified.

Tamayo said yesterday that search and retrieval operations would continue until all passengers had been accounted for.

PCG divers are being assisted by operatives from the Bureau of Fire Protection's special reaction unit, the Navy, the Makati rescue teams and volunteers from the PCG auxiliary.

SuperFerry 14 was on its way from Manila to Bacolod and Cagayan de Oro cities when it caught fire shortly after midnight on Feb. 27. Survivors said they heard an explosion prior to the fire.

The Abu Sayyaf had claimed responsibility for the fatal fire, but authorities have ruled out sabotage as the cause.

Authorities had hoped that many of those missing had been rescued by smaller vessels or had simply neglected to check in. *With an AFP report*

CREAM OF PMA CROP

This year's top 3 graduates of PMA Maliyab Class, from left, Rolly Juaquin, Julia Javier and Gerald Philip join hands during rehearsals for the controversial March 14 graduation of their batch. See story on *Page A9*.

TOOTS SOBERANO, PDI NORTHERN LUZON BUREAU

Kin protest suspected rebels' arrest in Tagaytay

By Tarra Quismundo

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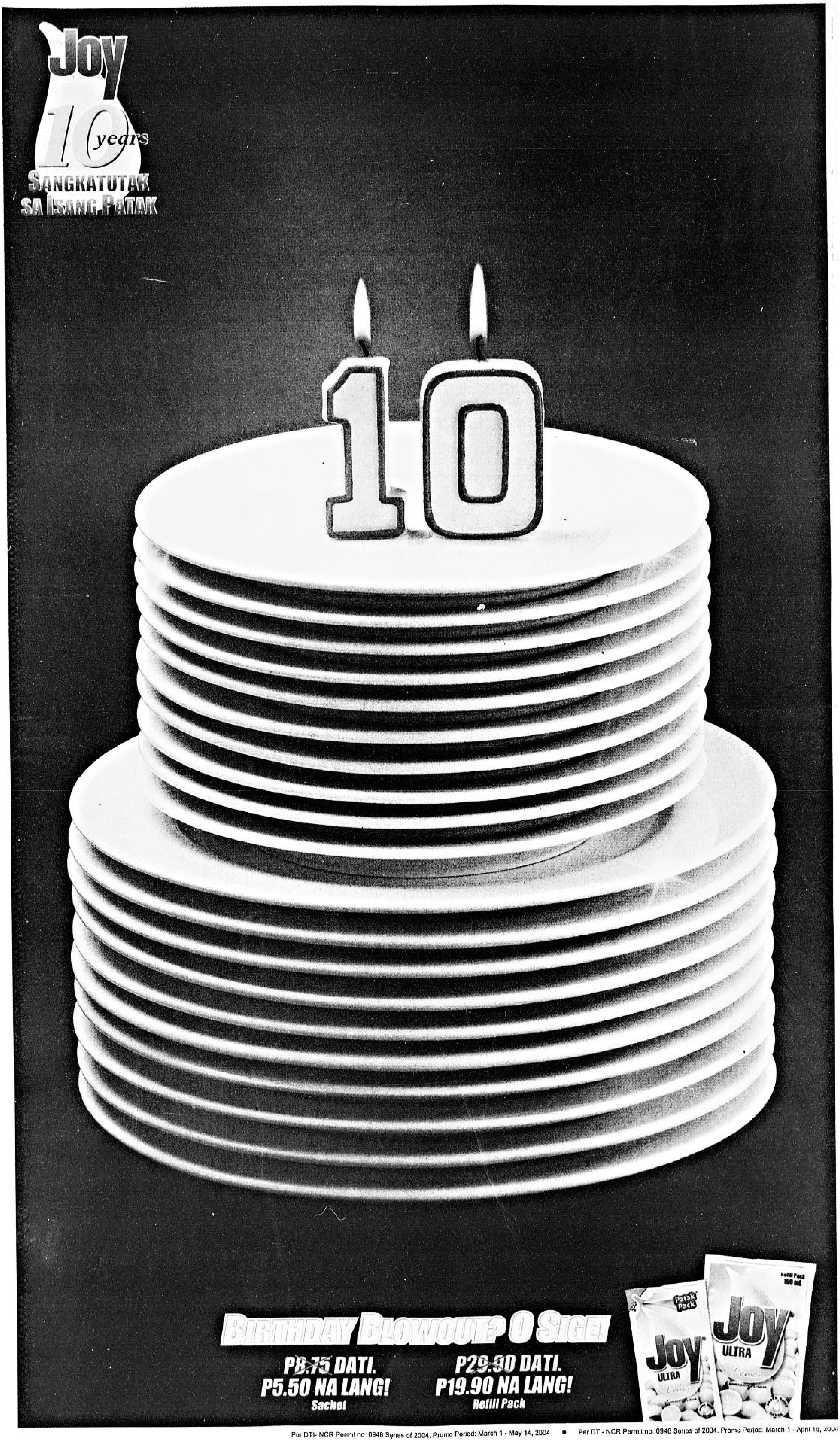
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Pinay is Singapore's 1st Model Maid

By Martin P. Marfil

FOR 10 years now, Erlinda Saludes has been carrying a heavy load, but she doesn't mind.

A domestic helper in Singapore, Saludes, 39, is the nanny of Alistair Ong, an 11-year-old quadriplegic cerebral palsy patient whom she carries to his school bus every day.

On Feb. 27, the Association of Employment Agencies Singapore (AEAS) took note of her complete devotion to her ward by naming her the city-state's Model Maid of the Year during its first anniversary celebration. Hawazi Daipi, the parliamentary secretary of Singapore's Ministries of Education and Manpower, gave the the award to Saludes who won over 85 other Sri Lankans, Thais and fellow Filipinos vying for the honor.

At the same time, a Singaporean couple was honored as employers of the year for taking care of their domestic helper, Luzviminda Espinosa, by paying for her hospital bills when she was ill several times in the past.

In singling out Saludes, the AEAS said that she also had to walk 25 minutes to Ong's school to bring food for the boy during recess and take him to the toilet.

Mother with 2 children

A Department of Labor and Employment report from Philippine Labor Attaché to Singapore Merriam Cuasay said Saludes is a mother with two children whom she left behind in the Philippines when they were aged four and one for a job in Singapore. "Working for Madam Angie Leow and her family centered mainly on Alistair whom she has to carry everywhere as he has very weak arms and legs," Cuasay said.

"Her employers appreciated her concern for Alistair, especially when he was undergoing intensive physiotheraphy in China," she added.

At the same occasion, Pauline Ng and Benno Bok were recognized as the AEAS model employers of the year for their generosity and kindness toward Espinosa, 36. Both took time off from their jobs to take care of the household work and of Espinosa whenever she was sick. Espinosa was hospitalized for an appendectomy in 1996, operated on for a cyst in 2000 and treated for a kidney infection in 2002.

The couple also shouldered all of Espinosa's hospital bills, the DOLE said.

"It takes two hands to clap. We trust her," the couple said when asked why they paid for Espinosa's treatments.

Honor to profession

Labor Secretary Patricia Sto. Tomas praised Saludes for the honor she brought to her profession of domestic care and to the country.

She also commended employers Ng and Bok for their concern for their Filipino maid. "They are rare employers," Sto. Tomas said.

Singapore has 30,000 to 35,000 overseas Filipino workers (OFWs), many of them domestic helpers. Last year, OFWs in Singapore remitted more than $94 million to the Philippines

Despair sets in for ill Fil-Am after sister denied visa

NEW ORLEANS, Louisiana — When Philip Bongawil was diagnosed with pre-leukemia, his doctors told him that his chances for recovery were good.

Bongawil, a US citizen and Navy veteran who is originally from the Philippines, needed chemotherapy and a stem cell transplant to prevent his condition from progressing to full-blown blood cancer.

Near-perfect

Against the odds, one of his sisters back home in Baguio City turned out to be a near-perfect match for Bongawil's blood and tissue type.

But when his sister Carmelita Fuchigami was denied permission to come to the US for the procedure, Bongawil's optimism turned to despair.

"I was devastated," Bongawil, 57, said recently, sitting beside his wife, Alicia, in their modest brick home in Chalmette, Louisiana.

"It sends you and the whole family on a roller-coaster ride," Alicia said. "When (Fuchigami) first called, he just sat down, totally heartbroken and depressed. You have hope so close but so far away."

Fuchigami, 46, had applied for a non-immigrant visa at the US consulate in Seoul, South Korea, where she was working temporarily, but it was turned down because consular officials said she had not provided sufficient proof that she did not intend to stay in the US permanently.

"My sister's interview in Korea didn't even last three minutes. Nobody even called the doctors. Why don't they just handcuff my sister, bring her here and bring her back?" Bongawil said.

In January, Fuchigami returned to the Philippines, reapplied for a visa, and was again turned down as a presumed immigrant.

Documentation

Bongawil said his sister provided ample documentation of his illness to consular officials, including letters and laboratory results from his physicians and a letter of support from US Sen. John Breaux.

"The consular officials didn't even bother to call my doctors to confirm the diagnosis," he said.

The Bongawils said they were baffled by the suspicion that Fuchigami, who has a husband and four children in the Philippines, was seeking to settle in the US.

"Ever since 9-11, I think somebody is honestly afraid to put their name on it and stamp 'approved,'" Alicia said. "But they need to look a little past it."

Bongawil's most recent visit to MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas, confirmed that he now has full-blown leukemia. According to the physician directing his care, Dr. Richard Champlin, Bongawil's life is now in jeopardy.

Recovery

"He will very likely die of his leukemia — it could be a matter of weeks," Champlin said. Bongawil's chances of recovery, his doctor said, have declined from 50 percent to about 20 percent.

Fearing that Bongawil's time is running out, the couple have hired an attorney to help them negotiate US immigration rules.

The attorney, Lawrence Fabacher, said he applied two weeks ago for Fuchigami to enter the country on a type of visa called humanitarian parole, which is commonly used in medical emergencies.

Fabacher called humanitarian parole a "legal fiction" which allows a foreigner's body into the US but grants him no legal rights.

Scam

"This case is extraordinarily well-documented," he said. "But (US officials) don't believe any of this. Even if they believe Philip is ill, they think this is also a scam to get Carmelita into the US."

According to Chris Bentley, a spokesman for US Citizenship and Immigration Services, the agency reviewing the request, Bongawil's case may qualify for humanitarian parole.

Bongawil came to the US as a young man, joining the Navy during the Vietnam war, a time when the US military recruited directly among Filipino citizens. He became a US citizen in 1976, and spent the next two decades as a career naval officer.

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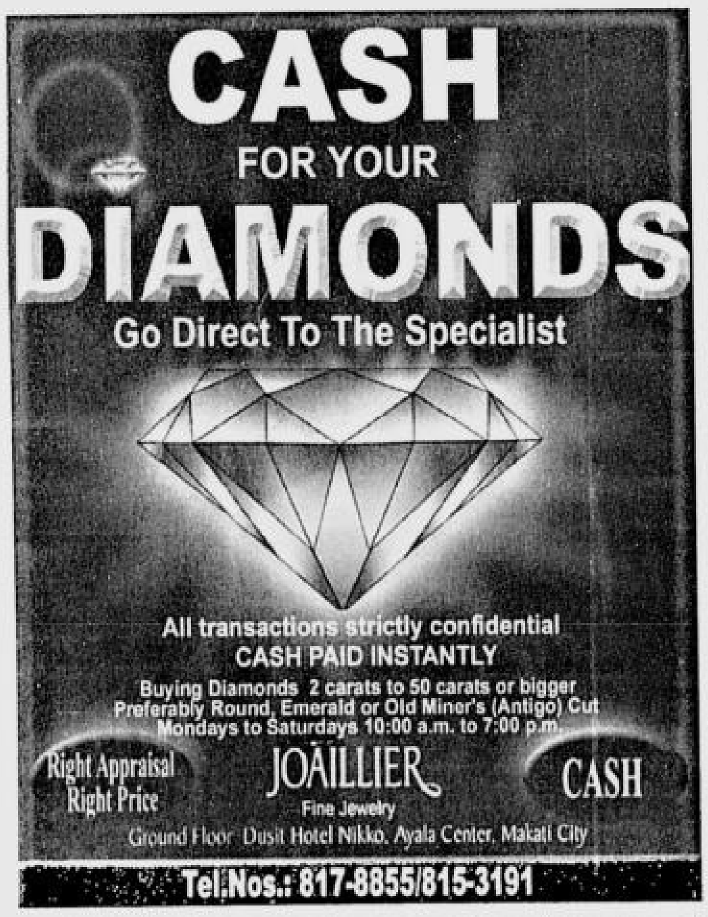
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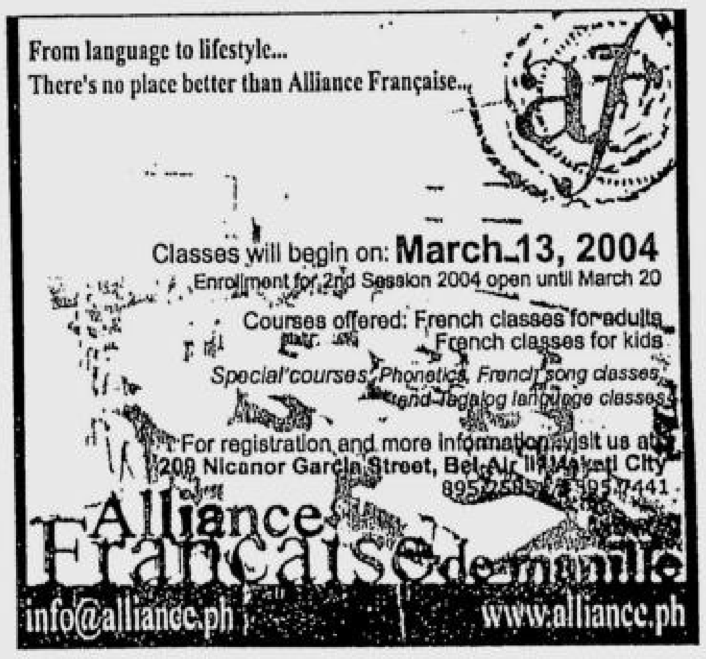
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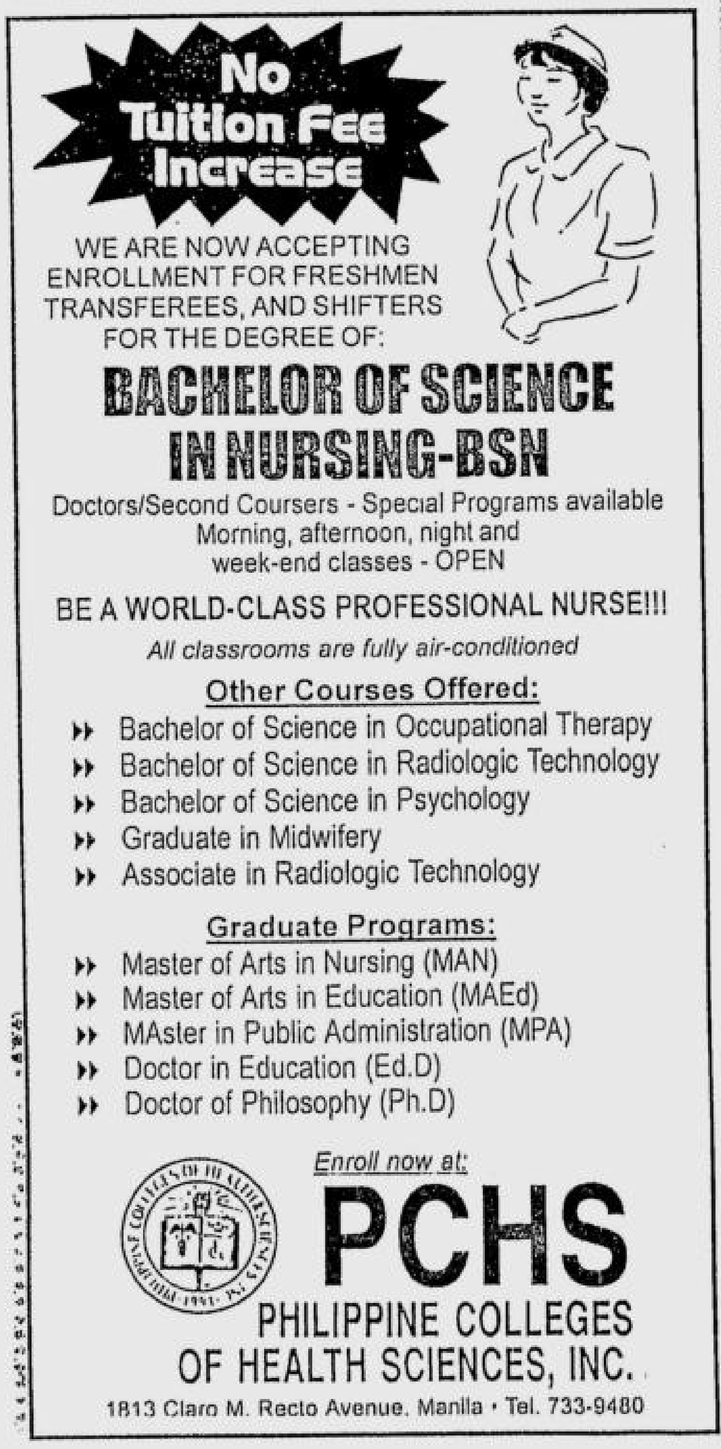
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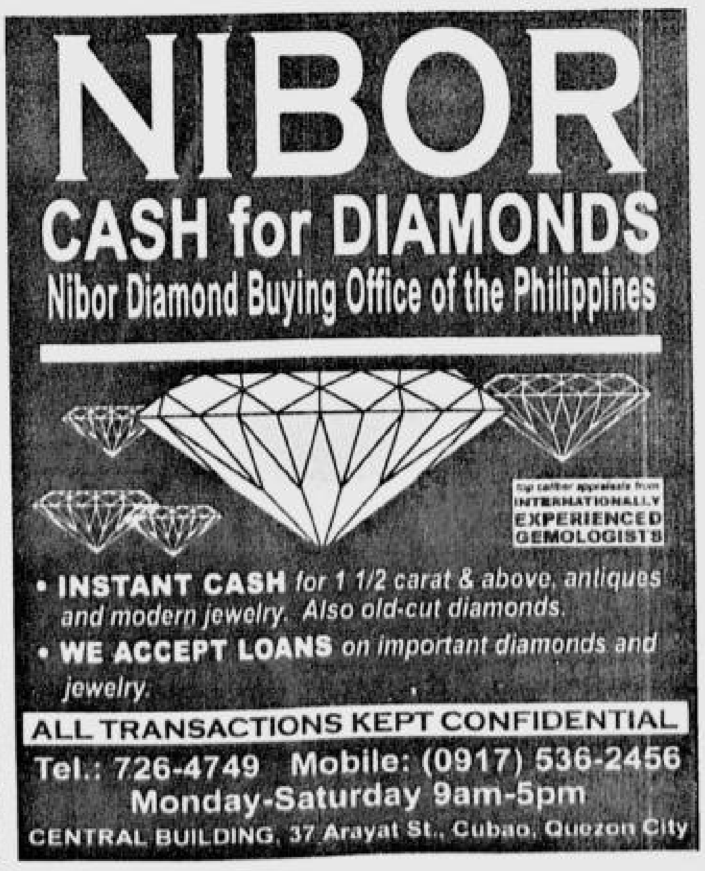
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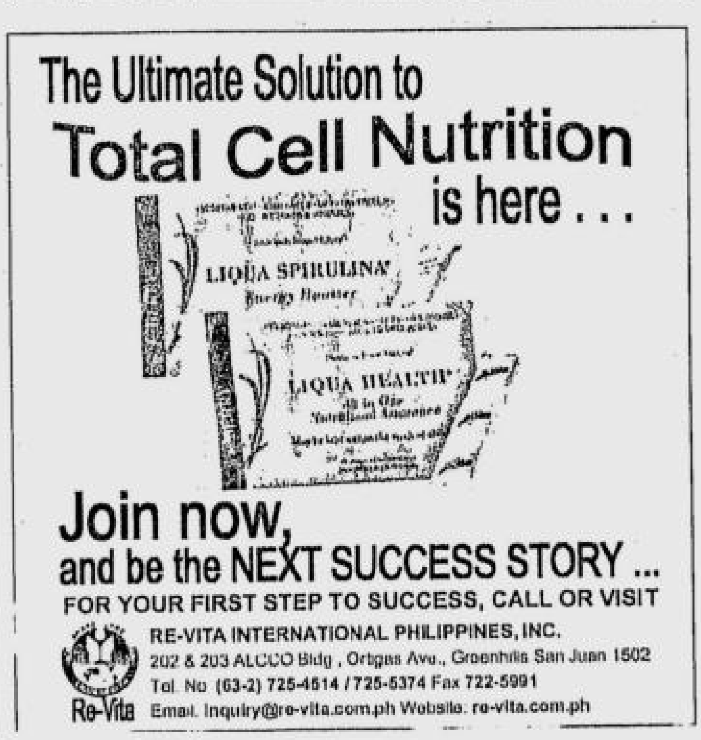
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YWCA searching for young leaders

THE YWCA of the Philippines has announced its Search for Young Women Leaders in celebration of International Women's Day on March 8.

Local YWCAs and allied organizations may submit their nominees who must be Filipinas between 21 and 26 years, and active members of the YWCA or allied groups.

The search committee is headed by YWCA national president Josefina Dineros Pineda with members Ligaya L. Tankeh, Corazon Alma G. De Leon, Epifania C. Daoey, Marilyn Cortez, Lourdes B. Ferrer and Gina L. Sadorra.

For details, the YWCA may be reached through tel. 523-1467 and 524-7234, or e-mail at ywcaphil@broline.com.

Malaysia nabs Indon 'grads' of RP terror camp

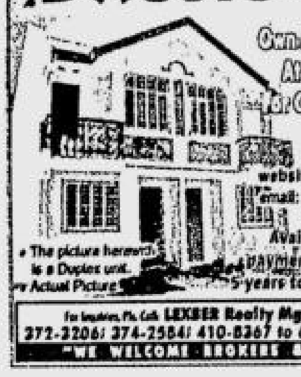
KUALA LUMPUR—Malaysia is holding in detention six Indonesians caught returning from a Jemaah Islamiyah (JI) training camp in the southern Philippines, a security official told Reuters on Saturday.

The JI, a Southeast Asian offshoot of Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida terror network, was behind the Bali bombings in 2002 and the suicide bomb attack on the J.W. Marriott Hotel in Jakarta last year.

The security source said the six men were caught several weeks ago but their arrest was kept quiet.

"They were all Indonesians on their way home from the southern Philippines where they had been at a JI training camp," the source told Reuters.

The source said one of the men known as "Denny" was a trainer at a camp hosted by the Moro Islamic Liberation Front in Mindanao. *Reuters*



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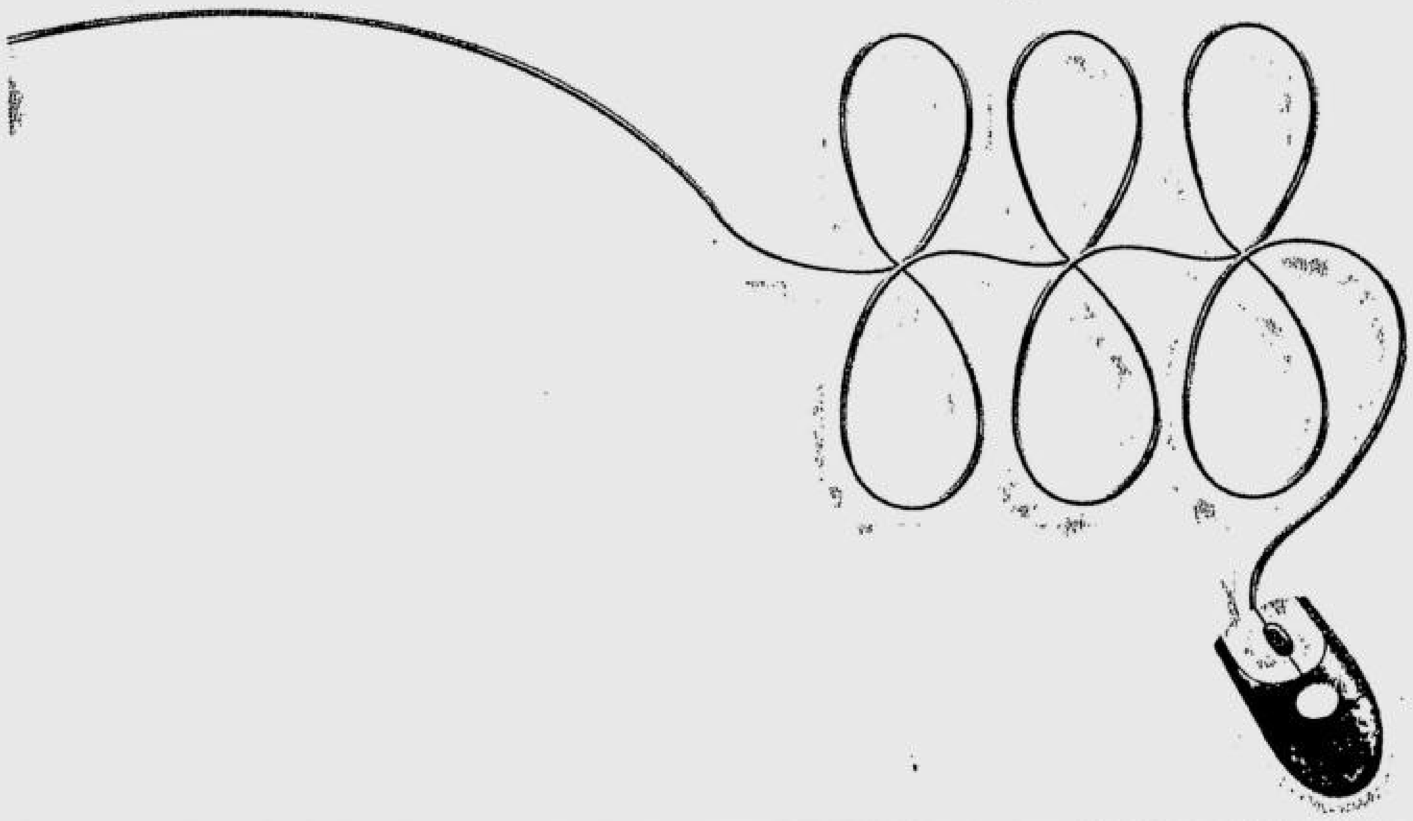

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This 'ukay-ukay' buff saves lives

FDI PHOTO

PUBLIC defender No. 1 on the job shortly after the escape of convicted terrorist Fathur al-Ghozi when she was asked to defend one of the policemen found liable for the security lapse.

From page A1

ed ex-President Joseph Estrada after he dismissed his private lawyers in his plunder case before the Sandiganbayan.

Humble origins

Acosta knows what it feels like to be poor because she herself grew up in a family of humble means.

She was born on Aug. 18, 1961, in Mariveles, Bataan. Her father, Florencio Rueda, was a mini-bus driver and her mother Herminia was a dressmaker who operated a small dry goods store.

Acosta was the fourth in a family of nine children, with two sisters and six brothers.

She remembers how as a child of 7 she sold bananas and camote tops from a *bilao* (native tray) in Barrio Cabcaben, Mariveles.

"I had to save what little money I had to buy a ball pen, pencil and notebook," she said.

Graduating from elementary and high school with top honors, she pursued a pre-med course with the intention of becoming a doctor.

Scholar of Ateneo

But when her family fell victim to a realty scam, she switched to law and set out to become a public defender.

"My parents were deceived by some realty agents and we got help from a PAO lawyer. What would have happened to my parents if there was no PAO lawyer to help then?" she said.

Acosta was a working scholar throughout her law studies at the Ateneo de Manila University and University of the East.

She placed 4th in the 1989 bar exams.

Acosta initially went into private practice and teaching, before serving as a court employee for many years until President Macapagal-Arroyo appointed her to head the PAO in February 2001.

"I'm satisfied with my work. But economically, my salary is just sufficient for my simple way of living," she said.

She pointed out that her two daughters are brought to school by a rental van, not an official car. She uses the bundy clock at the office, proudly showing her time card to the INQUIRER. And she goes to the *ukay-ukay* (flea market) for clothes, like her blazers which she buys for less than P100.

At the PAO, she leads a team of 1,048 lawyers helping indigent litigants in the country's 2,130 courts. This means one PAO lawyer handles "at least 20 cases in three or four courts" a day, said Acosta.

Winning average

In 2001 alone, PAO served 5,400,637 clients with such services as mediation and counseling, jail visitation, inquest proceedings, documentation, legal advice and on-air counseling.

Despite being in constant need of funds and manpower, the PAO has won, on average, 56 percent of its cases on appeal.

"We are a litigious people who like filing cases even for flimsy reasons like envy. There are many cases that are filed but are then dismissed by the courts. Not all of those in prison are criminals," Acosta said.

The PAO handles not just criminal cases but also labor, administrative and civil cases like those of tenant farmers.

"Those who die in this job are really the country's unsung heroes. Even when a rich litigant loses his lawyer, like in the Estrada case, we are always the ones called on to help," Acosta said.

The PAO also helps crime victims but does not have a witness protection program or confidential funds, unlike the justice department.

"Many of us even use our own salaries to help our poor clients," she said.

'Life is precious'

Acosta does not believe that death row inmates should be left to die.

"Life is so precious. It's God who gave us life, which should be cared for and nurtured. They are not like carabaos to be left for slaughter," she said.

She is personally against the death penalty believing that "a strict and thorough" enforcement of the law is the most effective deterrent against crime.

But since the death penalty law is there, it must be followed, she said.

"Jesus Christ was a victim of the death penalty," Acosta said.

She said that if the high court had not stopped the execution of Lara and Licayan, the country's justice system might have killed them even if there was reasonable doubt about their guilt.

Acosta appealed for a reopening of the case after Lara's and Licayan's co-accused, Pedro Mabansag and Noel de los Reyes, were arrested and claimed that the two were innocent.

'What if....'

"What if it turned out that they're innocent after the subsequent trial? How can we awaken them from their graves? How can we congratulate them about their innocence and tell them they're vindicated when they are already dead?" she asked.

Her defense of death row inmates has often put her in an awkward position and even exposed her to public ridicule.

Despite this, Acosta said she would continue to defend the rights of death convicts.

"I am only doing my job to help the nation build a strong justice system because the key to a progressive nation is a strong justice system. Investors will come if we have a strong justice system. If we cannot protect our own citizens, what more the foreigners?" she argued.

Family time

Acosta said she tries to manage her schedule efficiently so she can spend more time with her family. She also hosts a radio show and teaches law at UE.

"I feel I'm depriving my kids and husband of valuable time but I know they understand. I go to church and the mall with them on Sundays but when there are special cases like this [the Lara and Licayan case], there is just no time. That's when I feel guilty," she said.

Acosta's husband, Benedicto, is also a lawyer and teaches international law at UE. They have two daughters—Kayala Gethsemane, 11, and Kamilla Persida, 6.

"Both of them want to be lawyers. At a very tender age, they already understand my work. Whenever I ask them if they want me to resign, they tell me 'No, mommy,'" she said.

As for the future, Acosta said she is leaving it up all to God, as she does all her legal cases.

Erap's advice to FPJ: Get plenty of sleep

From page A1

Estrada to his buddy and presidential candidate Fernando Poe Jr.

The ex-President, who is now facing plunder charges, often gives Da King advice now that he is campaigning for the presidency, Poe admitted to reporters.

"But I decide what to do," he said in a news conference here at the Leyte Park hotel.

"Try to get enough sleep *dahil mahaba ang labanan. Kung baga sa karera medyo mahaba-haba* (because it's going to be a long fight. If this were a race, it would be very long about) 2,000 meters," the Koalisyon ng Nagkakaisang Pilipino standard bearer said, expounding on Estrada's advice.

Poe assured his buddy and political mentor that he gets four hours of sleep every night which is enough for him.

He shrugged off the findings of Pulse Asia Inc. research director Felipe Miranda that Poe would have broken away from the pack of presidential candidates if it were not for his association with Estrada.

THE BUDDIES: Learning from each other. PDI PHOTO

Miranda said Poe's "major handicap is there was an Estrada before him."

Poe said: "*Lahat naman tayo may liabilities*. Actually *alam n'yo naman ang pulitika* (We all have liabilities. That's politics for you)," and stressed that Estrada was not a handicap.

"*Ako sa pananaw ko, saan man ako pumunta, kung sino man 'yung mga taong kilala ko, basta hinahabol ko yung* plus factor (It is my belief that wherever I go, whomever I meet, I go one step further)...to reach out to the people," he said.

Does he get hurt when Estrada is attacked?

Poe said yes, adding that it's natural to get hurt "when a friend is attacked."

When asked about Estrada's plunder case, Poe said the case is in court and should be decided there.

The KNP standard-bearer was happy that Estrada moved to his weekend estate in Tanay, Rizal, while undergoing trial for plunder. The former detention center in Camp Capinpin was not comfortable nor does it befit a former president.

On Estrada's new quarters in Tanay, Poe said he has been there and described it as "*Maaliwalas* (spacious)."

HELPING to bring the truth to the investigation of Ninoy Aquino's death, Burton, who was on the same plane as Aquino on Aug. 21, 1983, and recorded the moments before and during his killing, testified at the Agrava Fact-Finding Commission and at the Sandiganbayan on Jan. 26, 1988.

'Thanks, Sandra for being there . . .

From page A1

"ease the pain" and "heal the wound."

In many ways, Bali did become that.

During dinner, they would often discuss—and argue—about Indonesian politics, books and the Philippines.

Friends

During those 10 months, Delfs said he and Sandra entertained friends from China and the Philippines, as well as watched the "rhythm of the Balinese" people as they fished or worshipped.

"I knew when we first met 22 years ago that I would never have her love in its entirety," he said.

"I would have to share it with her work, and her friends around the world," he added.

Delfs said he knows Sandra was happy with her life. "I was happy, too," he said.

He thanked former President Aquino and the Filipino people for the affection Sandra had received from them.

Thanks to Filipinos

Delfs said his wish is that Sandra's unfinished book, which is about the life of James Brooke of Sarawak, be published the way she would have wanted it.

"I know she meant the book to be a microcosm of the intricate economic, political and cultural life of Southeast Asia and its civilizations," he said.

Role of foreign press

Villegas also said in his homily that the country's history would not be complete without mentioning the role of the foreign journalists, who at times were the only ones listening to the plight of the Filipino.

The bishop said he had learned that Sandra was not only a no-nonsense reporter, but a warm person as well.

Luige del Puerto

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RP to seek Iran's help anew to get into OIC

By Jerome Aning

THE PHILIPPINES will again solicit the support of Iran for observer status in the Organization of the Islamic Conference when Iranian Foreign Minister Dr. Kamal Kharrazi arrives today for a two-day visit.

Kharrazi will meet with his counterpart, Foreign Affairs Secretary Delia Domingo-Albert, to discuss bilateral and international issues. His visit reciprocates the two trips made to Iran last year by Albert's predecessor, the late Blas Ople.

Although the Philippines missed an opportunity to become an OIC observer state last year, Albert said she was confident that with the renewed support of countries like Iran, the Philippines may yet gain observer status in the largest and most politically significant group of Islamic nations.

The Philippines hopes to be accepted as an observer by July this year, when the 56-member OIC holds its annual conference of foreign ministers in Istanbul, Turkey.

Albert, who arrived Friday from a retreat of Southeast Asian foreign ministers in Vietnam, described bilateral relations between Iran and the Philippines as "warm and friendly."

Last year, Iran and the Philippines spearheaded a conference in Makati City which sought to promote "a dialogue between civilizations."

The two countries adopted a joint declaration known as the "Makati Declaration," which called on all governments and civil societies to actively promote a policy of genuine and sincere dialogue among and within nations that would lead to respect for and appreciation of cultural diversity.

Albert and Kharrazi will also discuss Iraqi rehabilitation and the Palestinian problem. Albert said she would thank Kharrazi for Iran's support for the Philippines' successful bid for a non-permanent seat in the United Nations Security Council.

During his visit, Kharrazi will be conferred the Congressional Medal of Achievement by Speaker Jose de Venecia Jr. He will also donate in behalf of his government medicines to strife-torn areas in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao.

Iran is the Philippines' third biggest trading partner in the Middle East. The Islamic republic hosts about 700 Filipino workers, mostly professionals in hospitals and engineering projects.

At last, PCGG gets papers in order

THE PRESIDENTIAL Commission on Good Government has achieved a singular feat.

For the first time in its 18 years of existence, the PCGG has put in order its vast inventory of documents.

"All the documents here have been organized," declared PCGG chair Haydee Yorac last week.

Most of the documents are evidence in the ongoing ill-gotten wealth cases against the family of the late strongman Ferdinand Marcos and his cronies.

As of the latest count, some two million pages of documents had been computer-scanned and catalogued.

"When we got here, things were in a shambles," recalled Yorac, who assumed office in July 2001. "We started from scratch," she added.

Yorac recalled how their lawyers used to have to manually dig out of several stacks of files whatever original documents they needed to present in court.

"It was seek and you shall find," Yorac said.

But the PCGG was able to save only those documents that were still with the agency when its present team of officials took over.

Yorac believes "many documents" had been lost or stolen through the years.

Yorac said the PCGG would soon come out with a website. *Dona Z. Pazzibugan*

PMA rites draw controversy

By Vincent Cabreza
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

FORT DEL PILAR, Baguio City—For only the second time in its history, the Philippine Military Academy will hold its graduation rites outside its grounds.

President Macapagal-Arroyo is expected to grace the graduation of Maliyab Class of 2004 to be held on March 14 at the CAP Trade and Cultural Center at Camp John Hay. So instead of standing in formation as in previous ceremonies on Borromeo Field at the academy's grounds, the cadets will be seated.

Why the break in tradition?

Academy information officer Navy Lt. Bonifacio Agas quoted PMA superintendent Maj. Gen. Edilberto Adan as saying that graduation programs of military academies in the world were now "more relaxed."

"Cadets who graduate don't even have the luxury of listening to their commander-in-chief. After all, the President's speech is meant for them," he said.

But instead of earning accolades for the initiative, Adan's decision has courted controversy.

Members of the graduating class have asked Adan to restore the rites to Borromeo Field, where the cadets could perform their parade marches and firearm drills, Agas said.

Some PMA graduates were also surprised by the venue change.

"We were not advised about the change. I don't think many of us would agree to the graduation being moved to John Hay," a PMA graduate said.

But PMA officials said the staff work for the new graduation venue had been finalized.

"It was decided on the week when the Baguio Flower Festival was rained out," a PMA employee said. "(Officials) wanted to make sure that the graduation would not suffer the same fate."

The PMA broke tradition for the first time in 1981 when the Dimalupig Class held its graduation at the Baguio Convention Center. The academy also allowed the cadets to sit during the ceremonies in 1991, 1992 and 1993.

But the cadets will still get to march in formation on March 13 at Borromeo Field, when they receive academic citations prior to graduation day, Agas said.

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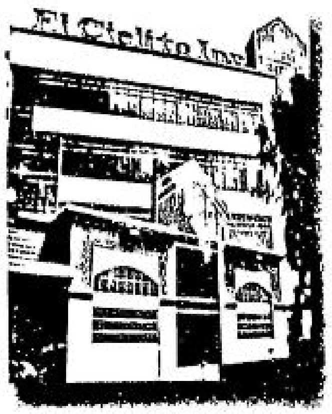

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IBALIK SA SENADO!

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US: Al-Qaida mulls terror bases in Africa

STUTTGART—Squeezed out of sanctuaries elsewhere in the world, al-Qaida may be looking to the deserts and jungles of Africa as a haven where terrorists could train recruits and plan new attacks, the deputy head of US forces in Europe says.

Key among US military proposals to fight back is deploying American units of about 200 soldiers to train armies throughout the continent, patrol alongside them, or hunt terrorists on short notice if necessary.

"Some people compare it to draining a swamp," US Air Force Gen. Charles Wald said on Friday, eyeing a map of Africa in his office in Stuttgart. "We need to drain the swamp."

Wald said some terrorists had been sent to Iraq from North Africa, and there were indications that al-Qaida has established a presence and tried to recruit in North Africa over the past two years.

Mauritania and Nigeria are among West African nations alleged by some Western think tanks to have al-Qaida cells, and top al-Qaida figures came from Mauritania. The country's government has cracked down on Muslim extremism and tried to stop recruiting of fighters for Saddam Hussein's cause in Iraq.

"They're there for a purpose, whether it's looking for real estate, or recruiting or looking for arms, whatever it is, we know there's a presence," Wald said. "It may be small but it's a bad indicator."

Africa is an ideal location, with its remote deserts and jungles and centuries-old Arab-African Saharan trade route. Governments are weak and poorly paid authorities are easily bribed. Communications are slow and in some places don't exist.

African armies, relatively small and poorly equipped, have difficulty monitoring the vast territories they are supposed to control, Wald said.

"It's an area we think is becoming appealing potentially for terrorist organizations or individuals to operate with semi-impunity," Wald said. "It has a lot of expanses of open area that are conducive to terrorist operations or sanctuary."

The European Command covers 93 countries from Russia to Syria, and all of Africa except the northeast. It is awaiting a decision from Washington on its proposals for a major reconfiguration of forces for the war on terror.

Critics say the European Command, traditionally focused on Europe, is not well-equipped to pay closer attention to Africa. The Heritage Foundation, a conservative US think tank, is pushing for the US-based Central Command to take over responsibility for the entire continent. *AP*

Osama bin Laden likes poetry, hates soft drinks

BIN LADEN

TORONTO—Osama bin Laden likes poetry and volleyball, had squabbles with his children, and banned any American conveniences like ice and soft drinks, according to a Canadian TV documentary on a family that had close ties to the al-Qaida leader until 2001.

The program showed a softer side of the world's No. 1 fugitive, but it also reflected his fundamentalist Islamic attitudes toward women and his terrorist war against the United States.

The show's main interview subject, Abdurahman Khadr, said he was captured in Afghanistan and worked for a time with the CIA, FBI and the US military. Khadr said his father, Ahmed Said, dragged the whole family into the world of al-Qaida by moving them into Bin Laden's compound.

Khadr, a 21-year-old Canadian who returned to Canada last year, described Bin Laden as "a normal human being" during the two-part show Wednesday on the Canadian Broadcasting Corp.

"He has issues with his wife and he has issues with his kids. Financial issues, you know. The kids aren't listening, the kids aren't doing this and that," Khadr said.

The Khadr family, including Ahmed Said—a suspected terrorist and al-Qaida founder who was killed last year in Pakistan—lived from 1996 to 2001 in the same compound as Bin Laden, his four wives and family near Jalalabad in Afghanistan.

Bin Laden spent several hours a day with his children, playing volleyball or encouraging them to read poetry. He awarded them horses when they learned the Quran by heart.

Women in the household, however, had "lots of restrictions, where they go, when they go, where they come, when they come, who visits to them and how long you can stay in their house and all that," said Abdurahman Khadr's sister, Zaynab. *AP*

Martha Stewart found guilty, faces jail term

NEW YORK—Martha Stewart, who built a media empire on tips for gracious living, was found guilty on Friday of lying to investigators over a suspicious stock sale and now could face prison time.

Stewart, 62, stood stone still in the courtroom and showed no emotion as she heard the verdict, which ended a seven week trial. She later said she would appeal.

The eight women and four men returned their verdict on the third day of deliberations. Stewart was found guilty of one count of conspiracy, two counts of making false statements and one count of obstruction of agency proceedings.

Wearing a black pantsuit, Stewart solemnly left the courthouse among a throng of hundreds of people and a small group chanting "We Love you, Martha."

"I will appeal the verdict and continue to fight to clear my name. I believe in the fairness of the judicial system and remain confident that I will ultimately prevail," she said in a letter posted on her personal Web site, www.marthatalks.com.

She will be sentenced on June 17. Each count carries a possible prison term of five years and a $250,000 fine, although legal experts believe Stewart will receive a sentence of less than five years, perhaps only 18 months, based on federal sentencing guidelines.

In the trial, related to her suspicious sale of stock in biotech company ImClone Systems Inc., her co-defendant, former stockbroker Peter Bacanovic, was found guilty on four of five counts. His lawyer said he will appeal.

One of the jurors, Chappelle Hartridge, told reporters that the panel felt Stewart's background as a stockbroker played a part in the verdict.

"She should have known her moves were illegal," he said.

He said he also believed the verdict "was a victory for the little guy who loses money in the market because of this kind of transaction. It sends a message to bigwigs in corporations they have to abide by the law. No one is above the law."

Stewart worked briefly as a stockbroker before starting a home catering business that spawned her media empire.

As the judge polled the jurors individually, Stewart looked from juror to juror, glancing down at the verdict sheets and tossed her hair from her eyes but remained stoic.

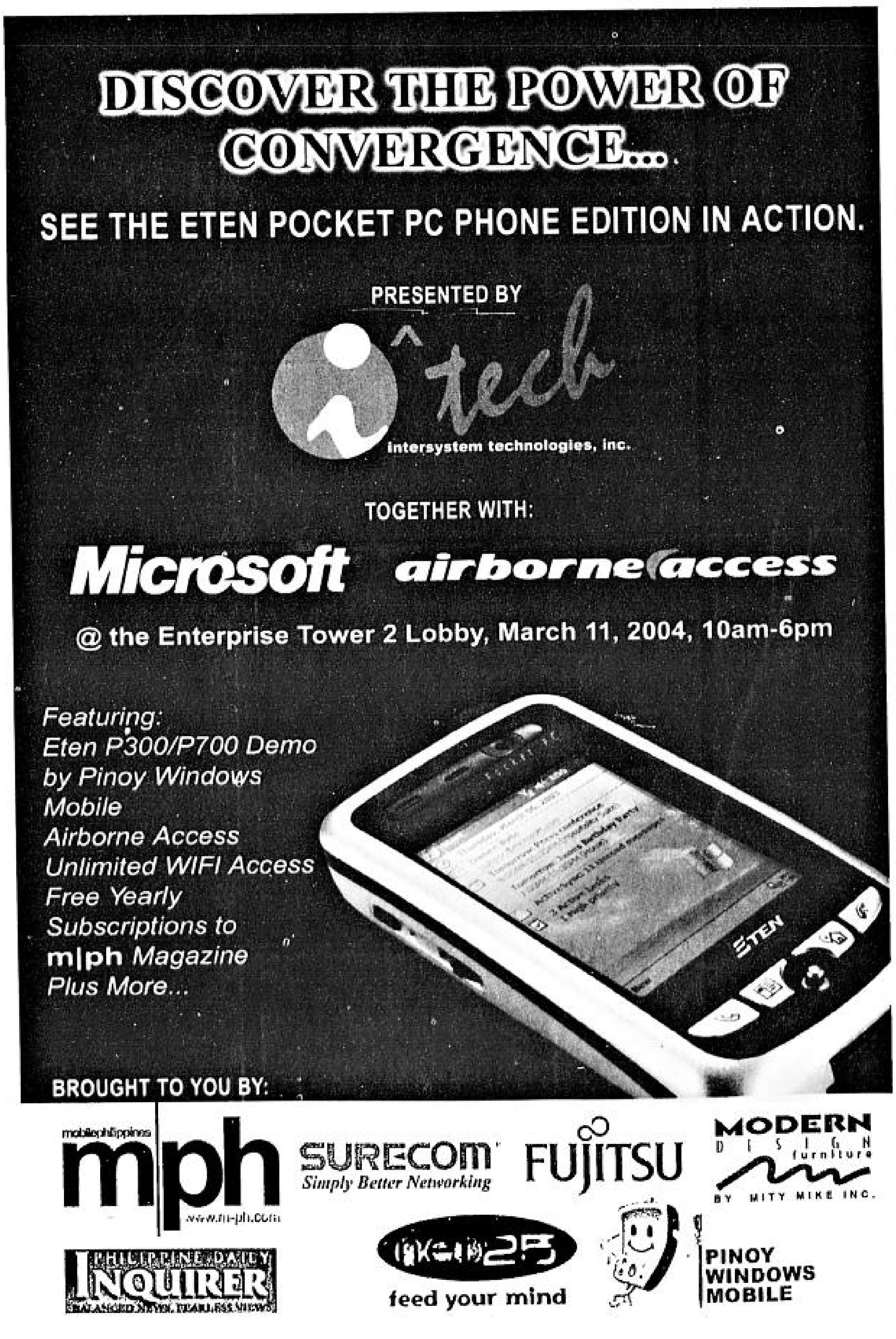
Her daughter Alexis slumped in her front row seat and put her head in her hands as her mother was found guilty.

Starting with her catering business, Stewart built a media empire that attracted millions of American fans who loved her magazines, books, TV shows and home products.

BUSINESSWOMAN Martha Stewart, 62, leaves federal court in New York City on March 5. Stewart, who built a media empire on tips for gracious living, was found guilty on all counts over a suspicious stock sale and could face up to 20 years in prison. Stewart will be sentenced June 17, 2004. REUTERS

Fans loved her attention to detail, her ability to prepare the picture-perfect dinner party and decorate a breath-taking home for every season. But others complained she set impossible standards for modern women juggling career and family who barely had time to microwave the evening meal.

The verdict came after a lunch break during which rumors of an imminent conclusion of the case sent stock in Stewart's company Martha Stewart Living Omnimedia Inc. sharply higher. The verdict sent shares plunging, closing down almost 23 on the the New York Stock Exchange. *Reuters*



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17 million Americans watch 'secret tapes' of Princess Di

LOS ANGELES—It was a close race, but the rerun of a television crime drama drew a bigger audience than the late Princess Diana's beyond-the-grave account of palace intrigue and personal despair.

Nearly 17 million US viewers tuned in on Thursday to NBC's highly promoted special featuring never-before-heard audio tapes Diana secretly recorded for a 1992 book that exposed the turmoil of her marriage to Prince Charles, Nielsen Media Research reported on Friday.

But part one of the two-hour documentary, "Princess Diana: The Secret Tapes," finished second in total audience for its hour behind a repeat of the CBS missing-persons drama "Without a Trace," which averaged 17.5 million viewers.

Still, the saga of the late princess, hosted by Jane Pauley, scored the highest ratings in its hour for NBC's target audience of adults aged 18 to 49—the demographic most networks use as a benchmark of prime-time success.

This week's installment traced Diana's early life through her courtship and wedding to Charles and the birth of their sons, William and Harry, presenting excerpts of an interview she secretly conducted through an intermediary in 1991 with biographer Andrew Morton.

Tapes of that interview formed the basis for Morton's 1992 international bestseller "Diana: Her True Story," which demolished the myth of Diana's fairy-tale marriage to Britain's Prince of Wales and triggered a chain of events that led to their divorce in July of 1996.

It was only after Diana's 1997 death in a Paris car crash that Morton revealed she had collaborated with him on the biography. A revised version of the book, "Diana, Her True Story in Her Own Words," was released after her death, containing edited transcripts of the recordings.

But Thursday's broadcast marked the public's first chance to hear Diana's exclusive account, in her own voice, of her life before becoming a princess, her long struggle with bulimia, her suicide attempts, the heartache over her husband's infidelity, and her strained relations with other members of the royal family.

The program also revealed that the go-between for the interviews, who carried a tape-recorder into Kensington Palace concealed inside the basket of his bicycle, was a physician and longtime friend, Dr. James Colthurst.

Both Morton and Colthurst recounted Diana as being desperate to speak out about the despair she felt over her marriage and her cloistered life inside Britain's monarchy.

Part two, which will include more excepts of the tapes, plus exclusive video footage of Diana never before aired in public, is slated for next Thursday, March 11.

NBC said the video, shot between 1992 and 1993 by her speech coach, shows a more relaxed Diana rehearsing a speech and conducting a mock interview. Her young sons can be heard in the background. *Reuters*

Iraqis hope to salvage constitution

BAGHDAD—Iraq's Governing Council said it hoped to salvage a deal on an interim constitution on Monday after last-minute objections blocked agreement on the document, a key step in US plans to return power to Iraqis on June 30.

The document was to have been signed on Friday, but objections by five Shiite members of the US-appointed Governing Council forced an embarrassing postponement of the ceremony.

Council sources said the main point of contention was a clause that could allow Kurds to veto a permanent constitution if it did not address their demands for autonomy.

They said the dissenters were following instructions from Iraq's most revered Shiite spiritual leader, Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani, who objected to giving minorities veto power and wanted to ensure Shiites had political power commensurate with their majority status.

In a statement issued early on Saturday, the Council said there was "widespread consensus" on the document and there had been "constructive dialogue... regarding an important sensitive issue."

"The Council will reconvene on Monday, March 8, to finalize the issue and sign the law," it said. Council sources said earlier that informal consultations would be held on Saturday and Sunday, before formal talks on Monday at 10 a.m.

The White House played down the postponement as a technical glitch, and said it still planned to hand sovereignty back to Iraqis on June 30.

"You're seeing democracy in action," White House spokesperson Scott McClellan said. "The important thing is that Iraqi leaders are able to freely discuss these issues with one another and do so publicly."

One Kurdish source close to the negotiations indicated that the standoff would encourage Kurds—whose leaders say they are holding back popular demands for the maximum amount of autonomy—to hold a referendum on self-rule in northern Iraq.

The interim constitution was agreed last Monday but the signing ceremony, set for Wednesday, was postponed to Friday after bomb attacks on Shiite worshippers killed 181 people—and abruptly called off on Friday afternoon. *Reuters*

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FEATI UNIVERSITY at 58

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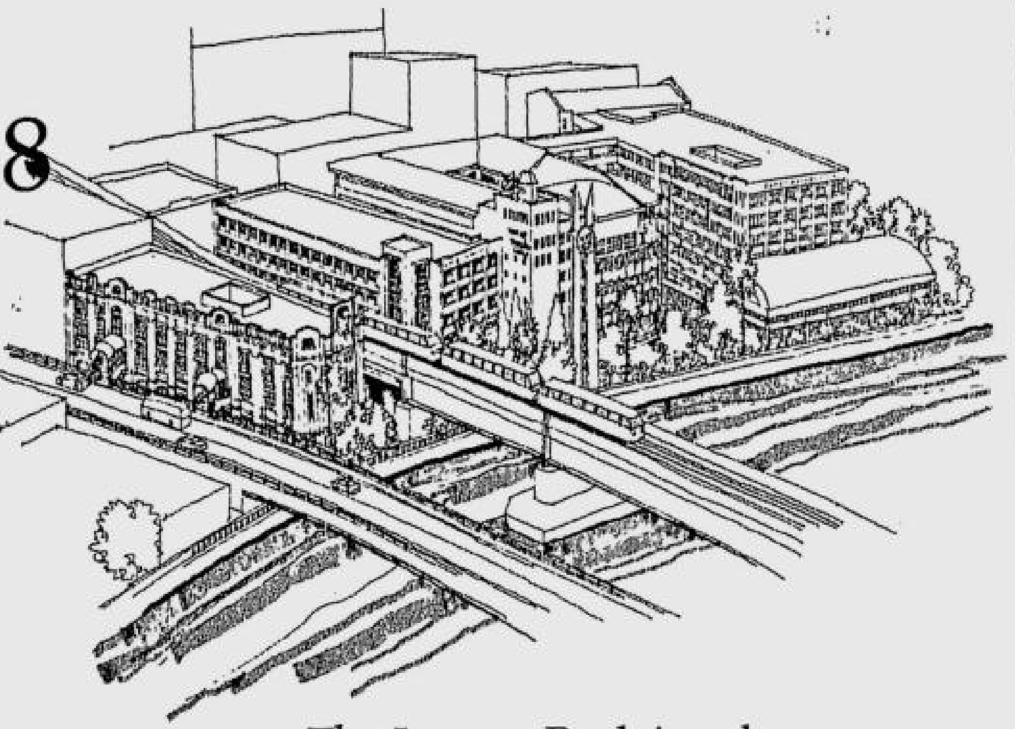
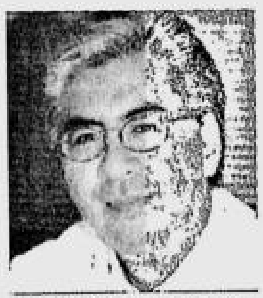
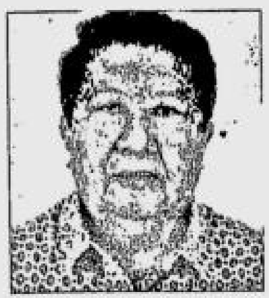


Engr. Felisberto G.L. Reyes
President



Engr. Gabriel P. Intengan
Executive Vice President



Dr. Leopoldo V. Abis
VP- Academic Affairs

Dr. Genaro T. Marzan
Dean, Institute of
Engineering and Technology

Dr.- Ing. Adolfo Jesus Gopez
Director, Research and Extension Services

Ms. Margaret A. Segovia
Chief Finance Officer
& Chief Administrative Officer

New Men at the Helm

It has been perceived that FEATI University had rest its laurels in the halcyon days of the University's early decades. Hence, when the times led to the tumultuous seventies, and to the latter years, with the changing of its guards and the country's presidents, it seemed, the future of the University became uncertain. But no institution is without its own share of worries, concerns and responsibilities. And in adversity comes the courage and determination to mend and heal. When leaders remain steadfast in achieving the mission and vision of the institution in a unified effort, the future gives much hope and opportunity to replicate and surpass even its former, finest accomplishments. Meet the dedicated leaders who will steer the promising future of FEATI University's rebirth.

Engineer Felisberto G.L. Reyes - President
A veteran in the engineering industry, Prof. Reyes was bestowed the title of "Outstanding Civil Engineer for 2001" by the Professional Regulation Commission for his leadership, contribution to the industry and exemplary work ethic. An alumnus of the University of the Philippines, he held the position of the Chairman of the Department of Civil Engineering in UP, and the Chairman of the Board of Directors of DCCD Engineering Corporation.

Prof. Reyes' conviction is that FEATI University will regain its fame as the breeding ground of excellent professionals and builders of a progressive nation. His counsel to the students is simple, "Persevere and strive hard in order to achieve your goals. The formula for success is a balancing act between the immense pleasure of your gimmicks to the more rewarding pleasure you'll get from the hardships of studying."

Engineer Gabriel P. Intengan- Executive Vice President
Engr. Intengan is an alumnus of the National University and spent a number of years in the financial management aspect of business. He was formerly the Vice President and Group Head for Consumer Banking at the Land Bank of the Philippines. He is also concurrently the Compliance Officer of FEATI University.

Engr. Intengan, as with his colleagues is as determined to contribute his expertise, and see FEATI at the forefront of educational and technical expertise again.

Dr. Leopoldo V. Abis - Vice President for Academic Affairs
Dr. Abis finished a doctorate degree in Mechanical Enghineering from Kansas University; his undergraduate course in UP. He practiced his engineering career both in Kansas and in the Philippines. Dr. Abis was a former Undersecretary for Regional Operations of DOST.

He will undertake the improvement of instruction methods, program for continuous education and the curricula that will generate highly responsive students, and create a dynamic faculty. He envisions FEATI University to be a world-class institution, a center for educational innovation that will meet the needs of the information technology age.

Dr. Genaro T. Marzan - Dean, Institute of Engineering and Technology
Dean Marzan has an esteemed academic background. He graduated with a Geodetic Engineering degree from the University of the Philippines and a degree in Civil Engineering at the Mapua Institute of Technology. He also took further studies in the University College of London, Institute of Aerial Surveys and Earth Sciences in Netherlands, University of Wisconsin, and in University of Illinois.

His primary goal is to strengthen the level of education and increase FEATI University's board passers. His agenda is to produce competitive graduates by providing them with the best resources and facilities, laboratories and equipment. Getting top caliber professors, who have excellent theoretical and practical background in their respective fields is also part of his program.

Dr. -Ing. Adolfo Jesus R. Gopez- Director, Research, Development and Extension Services
Dr.-Ing. Gopez finished his undergradute course, BS Metallurgical Engineering, Magna Cum Laude at UP. He was also a French Government scholar and obtained his post graduate studies: Ecole des Mines, Laboratoire de Physique du Solide Parc de Saurupt, at the Institut National Polytechnique de Lorraine in Nancy, France. He has written and published several papers and research studies in French. He has held positions in various sectors of the government, especially at the DOST. In his private practice as a consultant, lecturer, he was affiliated with Bacnotan Steel Industries, and, is presently the AVP-ED at PHINMA and the chairman and a member of the Board of Metallurgical Engineering at the PRC.

Ms. Margaret A. Segovia - Chief Finance Officer & Chief Administrative Officer
Ms. Segovia earned her degree in Business Administration, major in Marketing from San Jose University in California. For the last 10 years, she was affiliated with Pacific Bell's Marketing and Operations Department and with Arrival Communications.

Upon her return to the Philippines, she faced the daunting task of carrying out her share of responsibilties in the University that is also her birthright. The granddaughter of the founders, Ms. Segovia is also the youngest daughter of former University president, Engr. Jose M. Segovia.

As the Chief Finance Officer and Chief Administrative Officer, she brings to FEATI University, a decade expèrience in marketing, services and communications, introducing programs and activities for the continuous improvement of the University.

FEATI UNIVERSITY
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The Legacy Reclaimed

Fifty-eight years ago on March 6, 1946, Feati University, known then as Feati Institute of Technology, was founded by the visionary couple, Dr. Salvador and Dr.Victoria Lopez de Araneta. Their mission: to establish a school in aeronautics, technology and sciences.

The name FEATI bears its legacy from a noble endeavor began by the couple and other pioneering Filipinos, when it was still known as the Far Eastern Air Transport Incorporated (FEATI), then, the first civil airline in the Philippines serving the Iloilo-Manila-Hong Kong route. When it was sold to another conglomerate, as incorporators of the company, Dr. Salvador Araneta and Dr. Victoria Lopez de Araneta retained the name and ventured to contribute to the national welfare in a more expansive way-- through education.

Thirteen years later in May 30, 1959 the humble institution earned the university status, granted by the Department of Education. Dr. Victoria Lopez de Araneta was its first president.

After 58 years, FEATI University in 2004 embarks on a new mission to once again, capture the glory and reclaim its heritage and legacy to produce exemplary graduates, especially in the field of sciences, engineering and technology. FEATI University's unsung heroes, in the recent decades are the graduates who consistently topped board examinations and became distinguished alumni serving the government and the private sector. These are the people who are proud to be called Filipinos, actively involved in the shaping of the Philippines to become a more competitive and dynamic, global community.

The ambivalent slogan of the University, "Look up, young man, look up," has never been at any time, more challenging to the FEATI University community than at these times.

No longer a sentiment; it is now a battle cry.

FEATI UNIVERSITY Science & Technology Expo 2004

A Fellowship of Featinians and Honored Guests

For the 58th Foundation Day a 4 - day activity dubbed, "ST Expo 2004" featured the accomplishments of the students. It was held from March 3 until its culminating day, March 6, yesterday. This year, the theme "*Innovention in Engineering Services*" was adopted.

The event kicked off with speeches from Dean Marzan of the Institute of Engineering, Dr.-Ing. Gopez, of the Research Development and Extension Services and the honorable guest speaker, Dr. Estrella F. Alabastro, DOST Secretary. The handing out of Plaque of Appreciation was presided by the University President, Prof. Felisberto G.L. Reyes.

The exhibit was opened by Dr. Estrella F. Alabastro, and the entries were judged by Engr. Max Valenzuela, a faculty member of Marine Engineering of the Institute of Maritime Education, Engr. Rodnel Tamayo, Chief of Instrumentation & Metrology, MIRDC-DOST and Engr. Rafael Olivar, Science Research Specialist II, PCIERD-DOST, and also a FEATI alumnus. The event also consisted of on-the-spot sketching contests, making of load-bearing structures contest,film showings, other competitions and a fellowship of fun, luncheon and games.The highlight of the event was the exhibit of talents and skills by students from the different Institutes of the University. Entries as follows: Rainfall in Zone 1 that Can Generate for a Two-storey Building • Beam Analysis through SMS • Sosrobahu Mechanism for the Construction of Elevated Roadways with Single Pier • Foundation Works of SM Dasmarinas, Cavite • Flood Control Pumping Station in Lagusnilad Underpass in Lawton • Operation of LRTA Line 2, Phase 1 (Santolan, Pasig City to Cubao, Quezon City • Traffic Management along EDSA and Quezon Avenue • Miniature Power Distribution System • Pulse Tester • Revolving Egg • Hydroelectric Power Plant • Energy-Saving Boiler • The Revival of the Pasig River Ferry Services • Satellite Surveying • Miniaturized Broadcast TV Transmitter • Cosmic Ray Therapy • Electronic Lock Combination • House Protection while on Vacation • Digital Geomatics

With pride, last year's 3rd place winners of the DOST Awards went to four FEATI University students namely: Mark Christian Gojol, Rommel Lasala, MichaelEnriquez and Fred Gantalao.

During the Foundation Day celebration, 16 busloads of highschool students numbering to almost a thousand from the city highschools and neighboring provinces, as far as Infanta, Quezon visited. Their reactions varied-- from surprise, amazement at the ability of the students to create such inventions, to the feeling of ease. In their words, "They are kind, have good communication skills, and they wear smart uniforms! *Sulit ang bayad kung mag-aaral ka dito*".

The "ST EXPO 2004" awarding and closing ceremonies were led by Dr.-Ing. Adolfo Jesus R. Gopez and Ms. Margaret A. Segovia --the event's Co - Chairperson and Chairperson respectively.

FEATI University's Alumni Association, Inc. Homecoming

Coinciding with the University Foundation Day celebrations, the FUAA (FEATI University Alumni Association) held yesterday a Grand Alumni Homecoming at the Philippine Columbian Association in Manila to honor its graduates in their respective field of expertise. The following were feted the title, "Outstanding Alumni of the Year."

Pio Joson Benvidez (Engineering) BSME 1973-Cum Laude• Vida Tulay-Chiong (Government Service) MS Management 1990; BS Math 1970-Cum Laude •Ruben A. Dela Fuente (Education and the Academe) BSCE 1961 • Jaime C. Aquino (Maritime Engineering) BS Nautical Science 1968• Felizardo R. Sevilla Jr. (Business & Enterpreneurship) BSEE 1973• Johnifer G. Batara (Community Sevice) BSECE 1989

Libya admits to bio-weapons

THE HAGUE—Libya acknowledged stockpiling 20,000 kg of mustard gas and disclosed the location of a chemical weapons production plant in a declaration submitted Friday to the chemical weapons watchdog organization.

Libyan Col. Mohamed Abu Al Huda handed over 14 file cartons disclosing Libya's chemical wea-pons program to the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, said Rogelio Pfirter, the director general of the organization.

The Hague-based OPCW oversees compliance with the international treaty banning chemical weapons, which Libya joined last month.

Libya also declared thousands of tons of precursors that could be used to make sarin nerve gas, and two storage facilities, Pfirter said. The production and storage facilities were near Tripoli and in the south of the country, Pfirter said.

The declaration was a major step in Libya's eliminating its weapons of mass destruction, which it unexpectedly promised last December that it would do, hoping to end its international isolation and restore relations with the United States.

In addition to cooperating with the OPCW, Libya is also working with inspectors from the United Nations' International Atomic Energy Agency to eliminate its nuclear weapons programs.

Ban lifted

On Thursday, the White House lifted the ban on Americans traveling to Libya and said it would expand the US diplomatic presence in Tripoli. It also said US companies that were in Libya before the sanctions can begin negotiating their return, pending the end of sanctions.

Pfirter said the documents handed over by Libya "will allow us to certify that everything declared there will be destroyed and will never be used for any other purpose."

Concrete move

In the past week, Libya made the first concrete move to eliminate its stockpiles when it destroyed 3,300 aerial bombs specifically intended to carry chemical payloads.

With international inspectors monitoring the weeklong operation, bulldozers crushed the shell casings to complete the process, which ended Wednesday, the OPCW said.

Pfirter praised Libya's cooperation with the OPCW after it ratified the Chemical Weapons Convention in January.

"Not only have they joined the convention, they have been consistent in complying with it in a dynamic form. They have made an enormous effort," Pfirter said.

Pfirter said the Libyan development program and the production of potential weapons ended in the early 1990s, and the mustard gas had not been weaponized. "They were tested but not used," he said.

More than 160 countries are members of the treaty, including the world's largest possessors of chemical weapons, the United States and Russia. Only a few major countries, including Angola, North Korea, Egypt, Iraq, Lebanon, Somalia, and Syria, have yet to join. *AP*

FESTIVAL OF COLORS
Ramnath Choudhary, an Indian artist, shows off his long moustache during an elephant festival in Jaipur, India on Saturday. On the eve of Holi, the Hindu festival of colors, elephants compete in races and a tug-of-war with people in the city. REUTERS

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"The Hospital That Cares," offers a complete array of medical and health care facilities and services, medical education and training, nursing services, pastoral care services, and community extension services.

As the first hospital in the country to be awarded a triple-certification, San Juan De Dios Hospital prides itself for obtaining the following certifications:

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ISO 14001:1996 (Environment)
OHSAS 18001:1999 (Health & Safety)

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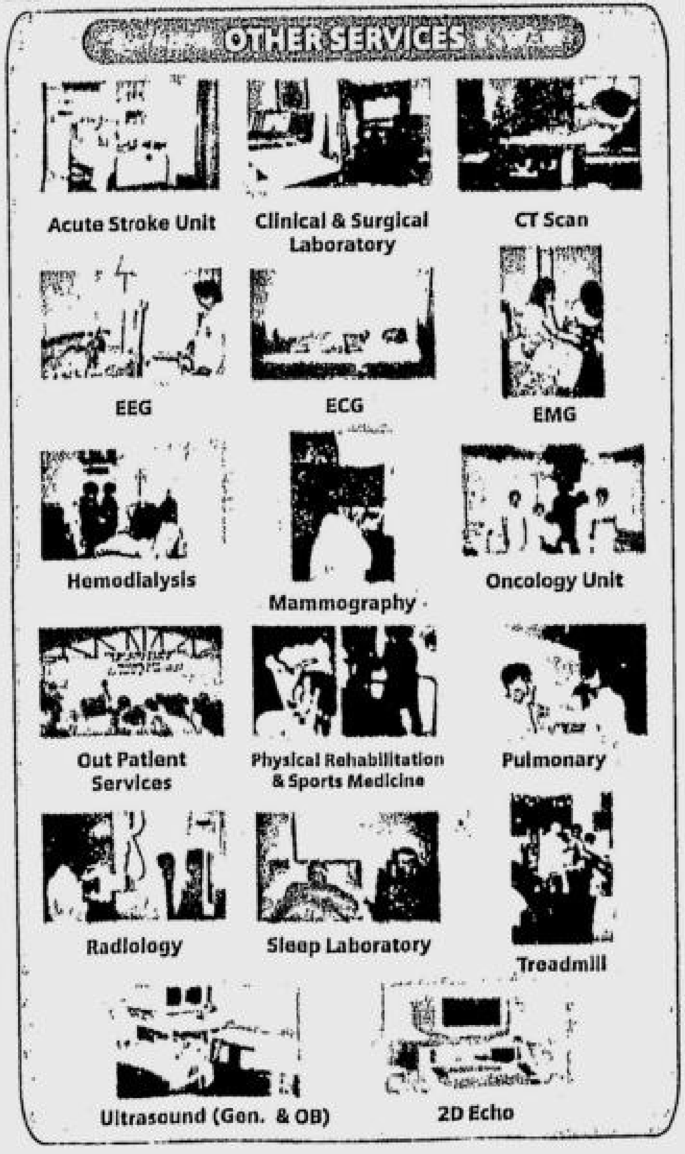

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Rover finds signs of water on Mars

LOS ANGELES—The Mars rover Spirit found the first indications that small amounts of water may have welled up in the soil of Gusev Crater where the rover landed in January, a Nasa scientist said Friday.

The finding comes three days after Nasa officials announced that Spirit's twin, Opportunity, had uncovered geologic evidence that its landing site on the other side of the Red Planet, the Meridiani Planum, once was covered with water.

Scientists working with Spirit deduced that water formed small holes, or vugs, and left mineral deposits in a rock nicknamed Humphrey. The rover drilled a 0.85-inch deep hole into Humphrey and examined its interior with instruments to determine its mineral composition.

"If we found this rock on Earth we would say this is a volcanic rock that has had a little bit of fluid move through it either when it formed or shortly thereafter," Ray Arvidson, deputy lead scientist at Nasa's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, said.

"The best bet is that water was in the magma. I don't think it was a groundwater percolation but water that came up with the magma," he added. *Reuters*

WORLDBRIEFS

World's oldest man dies

MINORCA—A Spaniard thought to be the oldest man in the world has died at the age of 114, his family said on Saturday. Joan Ruidavets Moll died from the effects of a cold on Friday night, on the Balearic island of Minorca, his relatives told the Spanish media. Ruidavets Moll, who spent his entire working life as a cobbler, was born on Dec. 15, 1889, in Es Migjorn, where he also died. His wife, who was born in the same year as he was, died at the age of 90. Ruidavets Moll was the world's oldest man, according to the Guinness Book of Records. He took over the title from Japan's Yukichi Chuganji, who died in September 2003, also aged 114. The world's oldest living woman is 113-year-old Charlotte Benkner, a naturalized American who was born in Germany on Nov. 16, 1889, according to the Guinness Book of Records website. The world's oldest person ever was France's Jeanne-Louise Calment, who was born on Feb. 21, 1875, and lived to the age of 122 years and 164 days. *AFP*

3-headed, 6-legged frogs

LONDON—Wildlife experts in Britain were left dumbfounded Friday after claiming the unique discovery of a frog with three croaking heads and six legs. "I have never seen anything like this before and as far as I am aware it is unprecedented," leading biologist Mike Dilger said after the frog was spotted at a children's nursery in Weston-super-Mare, southwest England. Staff at the Green Umbrella nursery at first dismissed claims of the mutant amphibian, believing instead that the multi-faced creature could be three frogs huddled together. "Frogs have a very primitive embryology—so the occasional extra toe is not that unusual. But this is something different," said Dilger. Animal experts were trying to capture the frog to carry out further tests to investigate its biological make-up. *AFP*

Human thumb salad

CHICAGO—An Ohio woman was served a salad containing part of a restaurant worker's thumb sliced off while chopping lettuce, a health official said on Friday. The woman "thought it was gristle or something like that" when she tried to chew the unexpected garnish, said William Franks, health commissioner for Stark County, where the incident occurred earlier this week. "Physically I think she's OK, other than hysteria," Franks added. Stark County officials did not release the woman's name. The restaurant worker accidentally sliced off the tip of his thumb while chopping the ingredients at the Red Robin restaurant near Canton, Ohio, he said. *Reuters*

Finally a bath after 10 years

NAIROBI—A Kenyan villager who has not bathed in 10 years was stripped and scrubbed clean by neighbors sickened by the stench, local media reported Saturday. Four neighbors swooped on the 52-year-old man in rural western Kenya, tying him up with a rope before washing him in public, the daily Kenya Times said. It took four hours to clean the man, whose body was also scoured with sand to remove a thick layer of filth. The man, a bachelor, has promised to wash once a day and now hopes to find a wife, the newspaper said *Reuters*

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Furious Haiti protesters want Aristide returned

PORT-AU-PRINCE—Thousands of people demanding the return of Jean-Bertrand Aristide marched on the US and French Embassies, venting their anger at his ouster and denouncing the "occupation" of their homeland by US Marines and French legionnaires.

A seven-member Council of Sages also was chosen Friday and immediately began meeting to find a new prime minister to head the country's transitional government. But an hours-long session behind closed doors ended without a decision.

About 3,000 protesters, a few with pistols tucked into their belts, charged past the embassies and the presidential National Palace Friday, chanting "Up with Aristide and down with Bush!"

Outside the US Embassy, one young man screamed epithets and then mooned the Marines.

It was the first massive protest in favor of Aristide since the ousted president fled to Africa on Sunday as rebels prepared for a final push on Port-au-Prince and the United States and France pressed the former priest to bow out.

US troops watched impassively as the protesters passed.

"If it comes to that, we will confront the US Marines," said demonstrator Pierre Paul, 35. "We will do the same thing that they are doing in Iraq."

Rebel leader Guy Philippe said he was gathering signatures for a petition to reestablish the army that ousted Aristide in 1991 and that Aristide in turn disbanded in 1995 after he was restored by a US invasion.

He said he also expects to go to court next week to try to revoke Aristide's order to disband the Army.

Earlier, Gen. James Hill of the US Southern Command came out strongly against that idea.

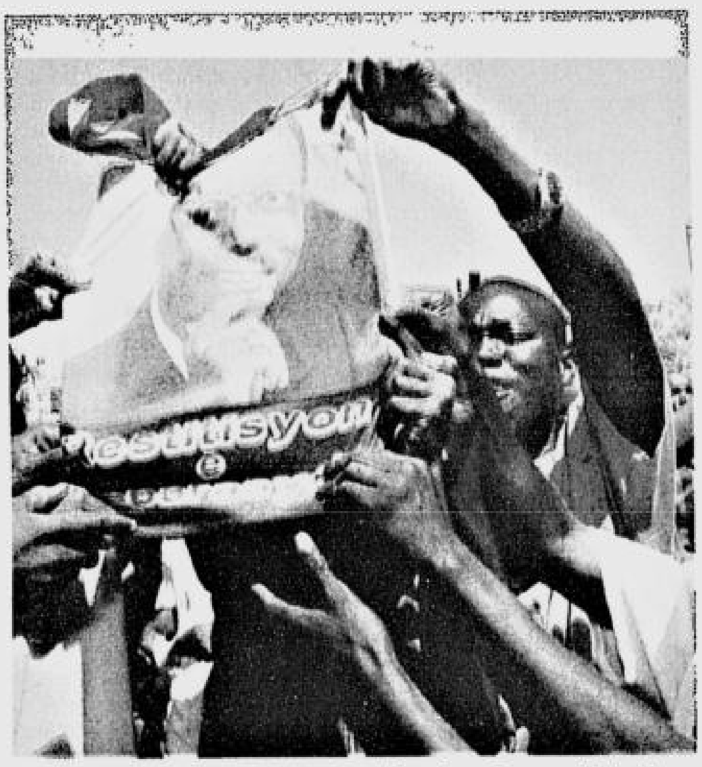
The Army has fomented 32 coups in Haiti's 200 years of independence and its murderous instincts and corruption are largely blamed for making the Caribbean country one of the most miserable in the world.

"There is no need for a Haitian Army," Hill said.

He said US Light Armored Vehicles were placed at the presidential palace to stop looting that had erupted in recent days and prevent opposition forces from taking over.

Aristide's lawyer, meanwhile, said his departure was forced. He said Aristide "told me he did not resign," Paris-based attorney Gilbert Collard was quoted as saying in Friday's France-Soir newspaper.

Aristide acknowledged writing "a note indicating that if his departure prevented a bloodbath, he would leave," Collard said. But the ex-leader also said that "if he had to resign, he would have done it according to the constitution and not with the push of a foreign power." *AP*



SUPPORTERS of former Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide holds up a picture of their leader during a demonstration outside the Presidential palace in Port au Prince. Thousands of outraged supporters of the exiled Aristide poured out of Haiti's slums and into the streets on Friday to denounce the US "occupation." REUTERS

Haitian rebel leader turns to evangelist for spiritual guidance

PORT-AU-PRINCE—Indian evangelist K.A. Paul has traveled from Liberia to Iran offering everything from peace mediation to humanitarian aid. In his latest tour, to Haiti, he is also giving spiritual guidance to the country's rebel leader.

PAUL

Paul said he isn't taking sides and is meeting with everyone, including Prime Minister Yvon Neptune, who has remained even as President Jean-Bertrand Aristide went into exile in the Central African Republic this week.

But he has spent most of his time in Haiti with rebel leader Guy Philippe, praying over whether Philippe should run for office and serving as his "personal spiritual leader."

On Friday, Paul and Philippe handed out bags of crackers, potatoes, canned corn and chocolate bars to hundreds who lined up for aid, an event that at times took on the feel of an impromptu political rally.

"How many of you want him to be in political office in this country?" Paul shouted out to the crowd. Philippe, who has denied political ambitions, mouthed "No." But the crowd applauded and cheered.

Earlier, as the two sat atop a truckload of food, Paul put his palms together, then grasped Philippe's hand and said a prayer. "This is just the beginning of God's answer to the people of Haiti," he said.

Paul, who heads the Washington-based Global Peace Initiative, arrived several days ago on his charity's Boeing 747—Global Peace One—bringing about 13,000 kg of donated food and accompanied by a team including former US Rep. Bob Clement, a Democrat from Tennessee.

Paul said it's clear Philippe has strong public support to run in elections to become Haiti's next leader—even though so far Philippe has said he isn't interested.

"If God wants him to be the future president or prime minister, that's what he will do," Paul said Thursday. "We're praying about it... If there is an election now, Guy Philippe will be elected."

Asked if he is now considering a run for political office, Philippe said, "That's why we asked Mr. Paul to pray for us."

Later, chatting with an adviser and journalists next to the pool at the posh El Rancho Hotel, Philippe boasted: "If we have an election now, I would beat all of them put together... But I'm not interested in politics." *AP*

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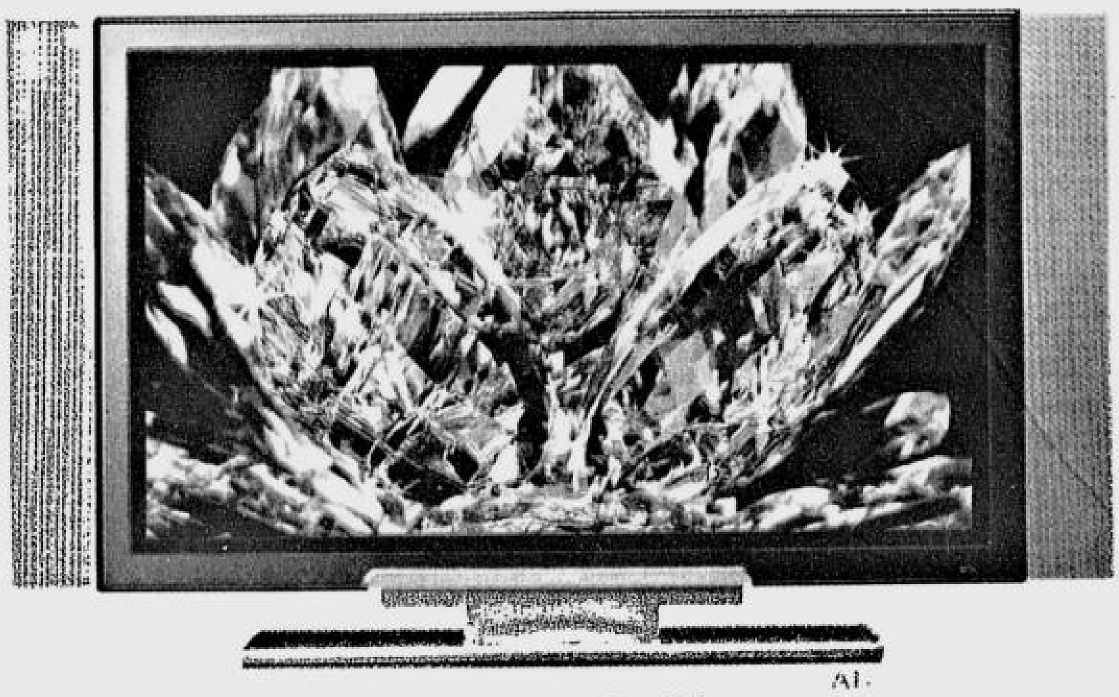

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Supreme mystery

EDITORIAL

IN ALLOWING murder suspect Ruben Ecleo Jr. to post bail a week ago for "humanitarian reasons," Cebu Regional Trial Court Judge Generosa Labra may have lived up to her name, but not necessarily to the highest standards of her profession.

Ecleo, the "supreme master" of the Philippine Benevolent Missionaries Association, a religious cult that counts thousands of followers, is facing parricide charges for allegedly killing his wife Alona Bacolod sometime in January 2002.

Only last November, Labra denied Ecleo's first motion for bail because "evidence of guilt was strong"—a legal condition that bars those accused of capital offenses from enjoying the right to post bail. At that time, Labra correctly emphasized the distinction between evidence of guilt and a finding of guilt, which can only be determined in a full trial.

Last week, however, Labra allowed Ecleo to post bail of P1 million, ostensibly to meet a medical emergency. Apparently, the most famous detainee in Cebu's Bagong Buhay Rehabilitation Center had been confined at the Chong Hua Hospital for a month already, allegedly for difficulty in breathing and severe chest pains. Labra was apparently swayed by the medical opinion of some doctors that Ecleo's "cardiac abnormality" made him a "walking time bomb"—someone, as the news report phrased it, "who could die anytime from heart complications."

Ecleo's lawyer said his client's only concern now was his health, which is why he was seeking a second opinion from either St. Luke's Medical Center in Quezon City or Medical City in Pasig. The lawyer said he was only waiting for Ecleo's doctors to pronounce his client fit enough to travel. Generously, Labra granted Ecleo's motion.

As it turned out, Ecleo was not only fit enough to travel, he was healthy enough to run again for mayor of San Jose, his hometown and cult stronghold in Dinagat Island in Surigao del Norte. Apparently, he was only suffering from the Joseph Estrada syndrome, a mysterious life-threatening malady that strikes important detainees but miraculously disappears when the VIP repairs to a rest house or, as in the case of Estrada's feckless son and co-accused Jinggoy, when he runs for office.

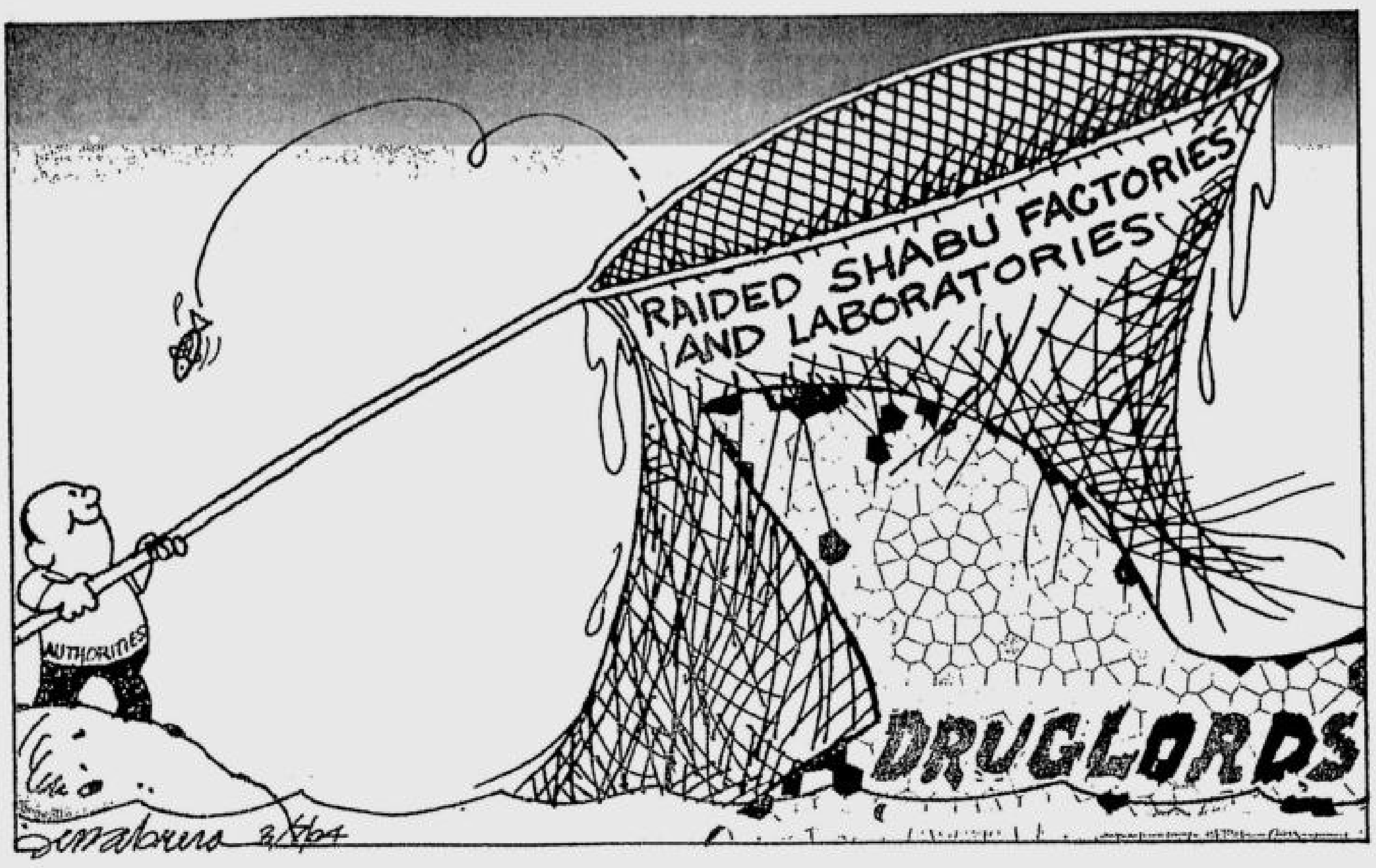
When news of Ecleo's political plans broke, a disturbed Labra said she might cancel the bail she had granted the accused. If he was running for public office, he might not be as sick as he claimed, she said. The day after, Ecleo's lawyer announced that, even though his client was running unopposed (and therefore did not need to campaign), he had decided not to run for mayor after all.

Good for Labra, but was she perhaps too naïve in the first place? In using her discretion to grant bail to someone accused of a capital offense against whom the evidence of guilt was strong, Labra engaged in high-stakes poker. Ecleo is not only rich enough to afford the Estrada syndrome; he is also a high flight and security risk.

He was arrested in his Dinagat stronghold in June 2002, where he fled after the warrant was issued, only after a tumultuous and violent encounter with the authorities. Before he surrendered, some 16 of his followers died in a vain effort to protect him. During the siege, a cult member a couple of hundred miles away, in Mandaue, Cebu, attacked and killed the parents and two other relatives of Ecleo's wife. The cultist was killed in a shootout with the police, but it is almost certain that the attack was in retaliation for Ecleo's travails.

The fanatical devotion of his followers—a daily experience at the Cebu jail where Ecleo received unusual privileges, almost as a matter of course—makes Ecleo a risk in spite of himself; some of the devout may even now be planning to turn his temporary liberty into a permanent one. The Bacolod family, which has already lost the lives of at least four members to the cult, also has reason to feel unsafe. "He might take revenge because we pursued the case against him and it was for that reason he was jailed," Ecleo's brother-in-law Ricky Bacolod said Wednesday.

All of this makes Labra's decision to grant Ecleo's motion for bail over-generous. She should have seen through the charade, because the script was all too familiar: privileged detainees, powerful connections, health emergencies, extreme language from medical specialists, political motives. Like charity, humanitarian reasons cover a multitude of sins.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Justice of what?

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

I CAN sympathize with Sandiganbayan Presiding Justice Minita Chico Nazario, who seems to be neither here nor there. She was appointed to the Supreme Court on Feb. 10 but has so far not assumed her new office. President Macapagal Arroyo, who usually inducts her own appointees, has not yet done the honors for Justice Nazario. The vacancy created with Justice Josue Bellosillo's retirement on Nov. 28 remains unfilled.

The President's staff is not sure of the reason for the delay in the induction of Justice Nazario as a member of the Supreme Court. The original schedule for her oath-taking was canceled supposedly because of the President's more pressing engagements. Later, however, it was announced that Ms Macapagal wanted the justice to remain in the Sandiganbayan in the meantime to resolve certain issues in the Estrada plunder case.

Does this mean President Macapagal is withdrawing the Nazario appointment so she can remain in the Sandiganbayan as chair of the special division now trying the case against Estrada until it is finally decided? Is a new appointment being considered? Or is the President just postponing the appointee's transfer to the Supreme Court until such time as she will have attended to those certain matters in her present court that require her personal attention?

If this be so, how long will Justice Nazario have to wait before she can move up to the high tribunal on the strength of her earlier appointment? More to the point, has she accepted her appointment? If she has, it can no longer be revoked except for cause as provided by law. The President's change of mind because, for example, the appointment was ill-advised is not a valid cause.

How may an appointment be validly accepted? Mechem, the authority on the law of public officers, says this may be done by taking the corresponding oath of office or actual discharge of the duties of the office; usually, the two acts follow each other to manifest the appointee's acceptance of the office. But each of these two acts, standing by itself alone, will constitute a valid acceptance.

The oath of office is usually administered by some responsible official, like the Chief Justice inducting the President of the Philippines, or the President inducting the Chief Justice or the members of the Cabinet. But unless the law specifically indicates the inducting officer, the oath of office may be taken before any official authorized to administer oaths, including an ordinary notary public.

Justice Nazario, if she would be so stubborn, may take her oath of office as associate justice of the Supreme Court before a notary public or any person appointed by the President of the Philippines. As thus accepted, her appointment can no longer be withdrawn by President Macapagal on the simple ground that she has changed her mind.

According to Art. VIII, Sec. 4, of the Constitution, any vacancy in the Supreme Court must be filled within 90 days from its occurrence. The vacancy created by Justice Bellosillo's retirement must therefore have been filled not later than Feb. 26, the last day of the prescribed period. The Nazario appointment was made on Feb. 10 (or 12?) before the constitutional deadline. If it has been withdrawn by the President, as conjectured in some quarters, a substitute appointment at this time would no longer conform to the period requirement.

Additionally, Art. VII, Sec. 15 of the Constitution provides that "two months immediately before the next presidential election and up to the end of his term, a President or Acting President shall not make appointments except temporary appointments to executive positions when continued vacancies therein will prejudice public service or endanger public safety." That prohibited period shall begin on March 11. Thereafter, the vacancy in the Supreme Court cannot be filled until the beginning of the term of the next president on June 30, 2004.

If the 90-day deadline for the filling of the vacancy in the Supreme Court falls within the prohibited period, it is the prohibited period that shall prevail. In 1998, then President Ramos filled two vacancies in the regional trial courts within 90 days from submission of the list of nominees by the Judicial and Bar Council (as required by Art. VIII, Sec. 9 of the Constitution). The Court disallowed the appointments because they were made within the period prohibited by the above-cited Art. VII, Sec. 15.

I do not believe Justice Nazario would be so reckless, or disrespectful, as to assume the position of associate justice of the Supreme Court against the President's decision to postpone her oath-taking for whatever reason. A becoming gracefulness, against the strict interpretation of the law, would make her uncomfortable situation more sympathetic to the people in light of the vacillating policies of the Macapagal administration.

From the mountaintop

MOMENTS

Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD

DID you hear the story about a dog that is a Math wizard? When asked "What is 2 x 2," it would bark four times. Everything was going great, until one day someone asked "What is 2 million x 2 million?" Triggered by the question, the dog started barking, and according to the story, the poor dog is still barking up to now.

* * *

The experience of the Transfiguration (Lk. 9, 28-36) must have been such an overwhelming experience for Peter, James and John that it triggered Peter to exclaim, "Master, how good it is for us to be here!" This mountaintop experience of Jesus' divinity was a "one moment in time" that gave the three disciples the vision and the inspiration to do their mission. It was a peak experience that made them know who Jesus is and who they are. It was a moment to remember, that changed them forever.

* * *

Was there a moment in your life when you experienced God in a very real and personal way? Our God is a God who reveals himself to us. He is not a God who is neutral and indifferent. He is a God who draws close to us, and who goes the extra mile to seek and draw us closer to Him. It is very comforting to know that our God is not a God who snubs or shuts us out. On the contrary, He is a God who is present, and who is always near.

* * *

A real religious conversion should lead not only to pious devotions but to real-life transformation. There are some people who are guilty of "spiritual gluttony," pious and devotional, but lacking in real-life commitment and involvement. And so it is that there are people who go after the consolations of God, and not after the God of consolations. The comforts that God gives us should not make us comfortable. Rather, these should lead us to risk our comfort zones and lead us to broader horizons. If your spirituality leads you to become selfish, narrow-minded and proud, you are missing the point. You are not letting God carry you, lead you and transform you.

* * *

Last week, I wrote about my dog Toffie that is always trying to get into my room, and my refusal to let him in, precisely because he disturbs my comfort zone. And so, I shut him out, and I give him something to eat outside. That way, he is happy and I am at peace. This is what we do with God when we manipulate him by throwing crumbs unto Him, while we go on with our worldly feasts and celebrations. But, like my persistent dog, God never gives up on us. He waits. He stays and He continues to offer himself again and again. If we look back at our lives, we see our unfaithfulness and falls, and God's unconditional love and faithfulness through it all.

* * *

Be careful of people going around these days, throwing crumbs to the people. They are "wolves in sheep's clothing" wooing innocent and helpless people, capitalizing on stolen wealth (the people's money!), to manipulate their ignorance and poverty by giving them bread and circus. We need a real transfiguration experience in our country. Edsa I was one mountaintop experience for us as a nation when we saw who we are and where we wanted to go. It was one shining moment, but too bad, it did not shine long enough. We are in the dark again, led by leaders who light their faces instead of lighting the path. But still, I believe that the memory of the mountaintop experience is still in our minds and hearts. It was possible once. It is possible again. Let this be a warning to those who belittle the memory, the intelligence and the inner reserve and resolve of the Filipino.

* * *

Remember Fatima Soriano, the blind 10-year-old girl who had peritoneal dialysis five times daily? By God's grace, and with people's help and generosity, Fatima underwent a successful kidney transplant operation last Feb. 28, and is now almost fully recovered! Praise God! Literally, this is a real transfiguration for the frail child who can walk around and play and need not be tied down to IV needles anymore. The courage and the joy of Fatima are very inspiring and contagious. She is a beautiful example of one who brings her mountaintop transfiguration's shining moment to the deep and dark valleys to light up our paths. Though blind, she gives us a vision. Though small, she reminds us of our call.

* * *

I will be in Roxas City on March 12 for a 5 p.m. Mass at the Cathedral in memory of Fr. Tony Barriatos, SVD, a classmate of mine who died as a missionary in Paraguay 10 years ago. Aglow with the transfigured Christ, he in turn went on to "bark" for his master in that part of the world. What are you barking about in your life? *Barker ka nino* (Whose barker are you)?

* * *

Don't forget our Palm Sunday Recollection at the Meralco Theater starting at 8 a.m., April 4.

* * *

A Moment with the Lord

Lord, in mountains high and valleys low, please be with me and be my guide. Amen.

Letter to a daughter in America

REVEILLE

Ramon J. Farolan

THERE was a time when the Philippine Senate was composed of intellectual giants and men of principles like Claro M. Recto, Jose P. Laurel and Quintin Paredes just to name a few. One such individual was the late Tomas L. Cabili, a Christian who represented a mixed Christian-Muslim constituency in the province of Lanao.

The son of Guillermo Cabili and Epifania Lluisma, Tomas L. Cabili was born in Iligan City, Lanao del Norte. Today marks the last day of the Cabili Centenary, a year-long celebration of the life and times of Tomas L. Cabili, the first defense secretary after the end of World War II. A lawyer by profession, he was elected as the lone delegate of Lanao to the constitutional convention. As history would have it, he would become the only delegate whose signature does not appear in the 1935 charter. His refusal to approve the draft constitution was based on the belief that discriminatory provisions against Muslims were contained in the document. This made it unacceptable to him.

With the outbreak of World War II, he joined the underground forces in Mindanao and was instrumental in holding together the different guerrilla factions in the area, at one time, preventing a bloody confrontation between two American-led elements that were vying for control of operations in the South.

After Liberation, Cabili was elected to the Senate and became an indefatigable advocate of the rural development program, an obsession of President Ramon Magsaysay. For his work in this program, he was known as the "Father of the Barrio Council Law."

Going through some personal papers and documents on Cabili, I found a letter to his daughter, Maymuna (now Mrs. Apolonio Bautista) who was a student in Lakewood, New Jersey in 1956. It reveals his private thoughts on America, local politics and the importance of a good education. There are times when communications such as the one which follows are more revealing of an individual than lengthy personal contact.

My dear Maymuna:

I enjoyed immensely reading your letters. It is apparent that you are enjoying your stay and that you are surrounded by pleasant companions. I hope you will make the most out of your studies and meet people. More important than book learning is the personal contact with great people. I mean people that will help you build a well-rounded personality, people who have ideals and whose lives are consecrated to a good cause. Your life will be the sum total of your education, your friends, and your perspective. If I must be biblical, I remember a beautiful phrase which I love to repeat—Whatsoever that is beautiful, of good report, and Godly, cleave to these things.

America is a beautiful country, the people are progressive and their way of life, and government is the best. They know how to live and they appreciate and value those things that give dignity and honor to individuals and nation. I have profited much during my sojourn in America, that is why I was eager to send you to the States so that you will have the opportunity and the privilege of enjoying the bountiful blessings that America bestows upon her citizens. But of course there are many things also in America that are not uplifting but American girls and boys have more freedom at an early age than ours. This is so because they are more advanced and they are taught to take care of themselves. Look, listen, and observe carefully their ways. Don't imbibe those things that will make you out of place in our country.

Let every minute count, your time is precious and it is with a great sacrifice that I sent you there. I shall feel compensated if you will turn out to be the woman I hope you to be.

Politics is getting hot. Senator Recto has decided to throw his hat into the ring. Many people are urging me to run for the Senate but I feel I would take it easy and run for the House. I feel that my chances of getting the Speakership is bright.

The children are all ok. They are missing you and they talk a lot about you. Christmas was not as frivolous and noisy as last year. People don't have much money to spend. Prices are going up. Unemployment remains unsolved.

Magsaysay, in spite of all his blunders, will still be re-elected.

I have given you all the freedom and no restrictions. I hope you will be judicious in the exercise of your freedom.

Your grade looks good but you must improve on your Spanish. You will find it very handy and valuable especially in our country. Don't develop any psychological repulsion against any subject. Each has a purpose.

My regards to your roommates and to those who made your birthday an enjoyable one, my gratitude.

Your Papa,

T. Cabili

* * *

Tomas Cabili was not supposed to be in Cebu on that fateful day in March 1957. But because of his strong alliance with the Osmeñas, President Magsaysay specifically asked for his company on this political swing to the South. He would perish in the crash of the presidential plane.

His son, Camilo would be mayor of Iligan City for close to 30 years. A daughter, Evelyn, would marry AFP Gen. Rodolfo Ecarma, Class of 1954. Their son, Col. Natalio Ecarma III is with the Philippine Marines, a future commandant in the making.

Laughing—and singing—of 'the change'

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

"MENOPAUSE The Musical" is such great fun it makes a woman almost eager to go through "the change." I am not, I must say at this point, going through menopause yet—though I'm feeling symptoms that are suspiciously like "peri" or pre-menopause. So there were moments during the opening night Friday at the Music Museum that I could "feel the pain" of the four women as they sang about failing memories, incontinence, insomnia and thighs that look like cottage cheese. Though I must say, if I would have the same energy, verve, spirit and spunk of these women going through this stage, then bring on the night sweats, the hot flashes, the dry skin and wrinkles!

Learning to celebrate menopause and the changes it brings is just one of the blessings one takes away from a night of "Menopause The Musical." Another has to be the great rockin' entertainment provided by four of our best and most seasoned female performers.

Mitch Valdes, Nanette Inventor, Leah Navarro and Sheila Francisco bring such energy and soul to their roles and their songs that "diva" doesn't even begin to describe their mystique.

"Power Woman" Mitch displays such a powerful voice and commanding stage persona that she doesn't even need a spotlight to dominate a scene. "Earth Mother" Nanette is alternately pathetic and funny, huffing and puffing through an exercise routine and trying to find her center amid the fog of sleeplessness.

And what can I say about Ms Leah, who plays an uhh... ageing soap star struggling to hold on to her looks? Suffice it to say that she's still a babe, a foxy lady, as she proves with her sultry number about her own personal "tropical heat wave."

I hadn't yet watched Sheila Francisco in a stage musicale, but in "Menopause" she more than held her own against the three better-known stars. As the naive "Iowa housewife" suffering from low self-esteem and neglect by her husband, she pulls off the most amazing transformation in the course of the musical, endearing herself to the audience in the process.

* * *

YET another unexpected blessing of "Menopause" are the musical numbers that bring anyone who's about the same age as the women onstage to their youth. Pop hits, most of them dating back to the 1960s and 1970s, are reworked and parodied, bringing these songs of young romance, unrequited love, surfer dudes and California girls to new levels of pathos and absurdity as they now sing of middle-age angst, hormonal shortages, Prozac and vibrators.

Menopause, with all its physical changes, mood swings and depression, is a serious matter. But we seem to have swung from one extreme of ignoring it and trivializing it to the other of talking about it as if it were a matter of life and death. Menopause can be irritating and debilitating, true, but it is temporary and natural, and nothing to be afraid or ashamed of.

Jeannie Linders, the producer and creator of "Menopause The Musical" calls it HRT, humor replacement therapy, offering the menu of laughter and song as a way for women and those who must live with them to laugh at themselves and look at the funny side of "the change." Better than a whole day at the spa, I guarantee!

* * *

"THE ICEMAN Cometh," and its Filipino translation "Pagdating ng Daluyong," on its last weekend at the Wilfrido Ma. Guerrero Theater in UP, has everything to recommend it to theatrical obscurity.

A 1956 review of this Eugene O'Neill drama says it is "too long, repetitious and inclined to be elephantine in its tread." It has only one set: the back room of a New York bar populated by a motley gathering of derelicts and drunkards, men and women floating through life in a fog of alcohol and self-delusion. The dialogues are drawn-out, and yes, repetitive, much more so in the Filipino translation which doesn't seem to have captured the poetry of O'Neill's words. The action is largely stilted.

And yet, and yet, as the same critic grudgingly admits, "Iceman" eventually builds up into "a work of titanic power, one of the authentic masterpieces of the modern theatre, and quite possibly the finest drama ever written."

It is also an acting showcase, but especially for the actor portraying Theodore Hickey, the hardware salesman who intrudes into the boozy world of Harry Hope's bar and insists on shattering the illusions of their "pipe dreams."

* * *

THE HOLLYWOOD star Kevin Spacey won a Tony with his portrayal of Hickey in the 1999 staging of "Iceman" which he also produced.

His counterpart in the Dulaang UP production of "Pagdating ng Daluyong" is movie director Joel Lamangan, taking time off from his full schedule of moviemaking to wrestle with the troubled Hickey, vile bonhomie masking guilt, if not insanity.

At the start, it is difficult to conceive of Hickey as a soul in turmoil, so skillfully does Lamangan portray him as a slick, oily and quite distasteful character. The other occupants of Harry Hope's bar seem but putty in his malicious hands.

Lamangan never quite wins the audience's sympathy, and one feels the playwright never intended to make us feel sorry for Hickey, anyway. But it's the mask of conviviality and ruthlessness over a swirling cauldron of guilt and blame that marks Lamangan's depth and skill. Certainly, I could never watch another movie of his without remembering that the man behind the camera is himself an actor of great power.

In an interview, Spacey said that staging and acting in a revival of "Iceman" were to him "a gift and a responsibility." So was it for a member of the audience, granted the privilege of sitting in on the world of failed dreamers and lovable losers.

Is a non-killing society possible?

PUBLIC LIVES

Randy David

PROF. Glenn Paige, the author of a book with the curious title, "Nonkilling Global Political Science," is visiting the Philippines, and has been asking scholars and activists the unsettling question "Is a non-killing Filipino society possible?" Below is the shortened version of the comment I read in a forum on this question at the University of the Philippines.

The national anthem of the Philippines, sung every day by schoolchildren, ends with these words: *"Aming ligaya na pag may mang-aapi/ Ang mamatay nang dahil sa iyo."* (Rough translation: Should an oppressor come/ Our joy would be to die for you.) In the 1970s, student activists thought this line to be passive, and started to sing a version that replaced the word "*mamatay*" (to die) with "*pumatay*" (to kill). As a people with a long history of resistance against foreign invaders, our initiation to patriotic citizenship incorporates a readiness to kill and die for our country. Is a non-killing Filipino nation possible then? If our past were to be our sole guide, the answer would perhaps be a "no."

But if we look ahead to the future we desire, yes, I believe that a non-killing Philippine society is not only possible but also necessary. I do not believe that it is human nature to kill. There is no human nature outside of the formative context of social relationships and institutions in which human beings become what they are. We can change our being by changing the relations that shape us. A non-killing society would be a society that has succeeded in substituting rational negotiation and moral commitment for coercion as the basis for compliance and cooperation among its citizens.

I think of the history of humankind as the gradual march toward cultures free from violence. I regard the complex moral acrobatics that communities like ours go through to justify killing as symptoms of a growing moral aversion toward all forms of killing. The passionate debate on capital punishment, the narrowing moral and legal justification for war, and the mounting arguments against the manufacture and ownership of weapons of increasing lethality all attest to this shift in consciousness.

Moreover, there is moral progress when respect is accorded not only to human life but to human dignity as well. It is important to bear this in mind because throughout history killing was deemed acceptable when the victims were seen as less than human.

Both Spain and the United States took the lives of the original inhabitants of our islands on the premise that they were dealing with savages. That is why the quest for nationhood that Rizal and our founding heroes started was as much a struggle for recognition of the Filipino as a human being as it was a struggle for national emancipation.

Despite the cruel wars of the last century and of the present, humanity has come a long way from the days of brutal colonial conquest. The growing richness of humankind's moral vocabulary has made it possible for people, regardless of their race or status in life, to be seen as beings endowed with rights. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, for all its Western origins, testifies to this palpable moral progress.

Yet, as before, killing is easy on the conscience when the deed is abstracted and the victim is objectified. So long as the pilot bomber sees in his cross hairs not living communities but little dots of reflected light on his screen, and so long as the death of civilians is dismissed as "collateral damage," killing is purged of its moral repugnance. So is the awesome lethality of American bombs softened when they are referred to as "patriot missiles." By this same semantic sleight of hand is the cold and ugly economics of the whole American arms industry hidden beneath the rhetoric of liberation, democracy and national security.

If so much lethality in human history has been justified, accepted and rationalized by stripping the victims of their humanity, then we must presume that the first logical step toward de-legitimizing killing is by restoring the humanity and dignity of its victims. If communities are stripped of their humanity by irresponsible media depictions, so too can it be restored by descriptions of the details of their lives that make them human like all of us.

I think of Marilou Diaz-Abaya's film "Bagong Buwan" (New Moon) as a prime example of films that lay the foundations for solidarity because they enlarge the membership of the community we treat as ours. The film tells the story of a Muslim family caught in the crossfire of the guerrilla war and the government military operations in Mindanao. By showing how a Muslim family undergoes the same conflicts, fears and reminiscences familiar to most Filipino families, the film tears down the walls of prejudice and misunderstanding that set communities apart from one another.

Killing need not result in instant death. I think of poverty as the protracted killing and maiming of people, sanctioned by a state that fails to recognize its basic responsibilities to its citizens. Many of us don't see the death and the injury that poverty inflicts on our fellow human beings because our society conceals this from us. We are well protected from our own consciences. If we acknowledge poverty at all, it is only as statistics rather than as a narrative of struggle and slow death.

The word "non-killing" is clearly a take-off from "non-violent" but it is infinitely more unsettling. Words like these can produce radical "gestalt switches," says the philosopher Richard Rorty. A "talent for speaking differently, rather than for arguing well," he says, can be a valuable instrument of social change. By using words never before used, we may yet bring about "human beings of a sort that had never before existed."

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Comments to randolf@pacific.net.ph

General Wiranto: trapped by history

EYE ON ASIA

Karim Raslan

FOR General Wiranto—a candidate vying for Golkar's presidential party nomination, Indonesian history hovers awkwardly in the background.

Will the 56-year-old former armed forces chief be remembered as the man who, in 1998, when Indonesia was being rocked by street demonstrations and economic turmoil, chose not to seize power for himself?

Instead he guided his nation toward democracy—rejecting the example set by his mentor, former President Suharto. Certainly Filipinos will acknowledge Wiranto's welcome commitment to democracy and reform.

Or, alternatively will his reputation be tarnished by his alleged role in the atrocities that roiled East Timor in 1999 after a referendum sealed the territory's independence?

Even in his current guise as a political candidate, the Central Javanese military man seems to carry the full weight of the past on his shoulders. His tired eyes reflect a man battling to resurrect his "name" every step of the way.

However, he's adamant that his entry into politics isn't driven by a need to justify his past actions: "I'm not here to redeem myself. Such ideas are fanciful and exaggerated. It is my calling and my mission to serve the nation. It comes from here (he points at his chest). I want to defend and lead the nation. I'm not here in search of respect, publicity or glamour."

Wiranto has positioned himself as a "strong-man" candidate: a man's man and the answer to his country's listless and fractious leadership.

"I offer my track record as a military man and a minister. have worked extremely hard for my people. I have attended to the interests of the ordinary man. I helped shepher through the country's transition to democracy, observing the Constitution every step of the way. I never took advantage of the situation.

"Why am I entering politics now? Back in 1998 we all expected that the new political leaders would address the country's problems. At the time, there was an agreement between the leading political players that Indonesia would become safer, more just and a prosperous nation and that there would be less corruption.

"But none of that has happened. Look at the present situation. We still don't have the stability we need. We are still in mess. I feel that the country needs strong leadership and I'm here to provide it."

"However, you cannot separate politics from economics, he says confidently, "I've been thinking about such issues ever since I left the government. My key goal would be to fin employment for the people—unemployment is extremel high at the moment.

"We need to make the investment climate more stable. O course, I'm optimistic that Indonesians can find solutions fo challenges such as the rise of China. It's vital for us to gi confidence to investors. We need to guarantee stability an the rule of law. I would want to improve the enforceme and implementation of our laws. They have to be applied in consistent manner."

Still, Wiranto's candidacy and its success have perplexe much of the international community. Meidyatama Sury diningrat (or Dimas), a political analyst, explains: "Foreigners and especially Australians and Americans don't seem t understand how little Timor registers on the minds of Indonesians. We've faced countless other crises—in Ambon, Poso and now in Acheh. These conflicts matter a great de more to Indonesians. The outside world is fixated on Tim They ignore the extent to which someone like Wiranto is actually quite popular domestically."

Certainly, his well-funded and professionally run campaign has managed to generate a surprising amount of political "heat." Long known for his good looks, calm authen and Javanese understatement, Wiranto has surprised h countrymen with his readiness to hit the ground and pr the flesh. He has even become the head of a large stallholders' association, the Assosiasi Perhimpunan Warung Teg and launched a CD of his own songs, entitled "For You My Indonesia."

The recent acquittal of Akbar Tanjung (the Golkar chai and Megawati Sukarnoputri's haphazard leadership, ha strengthened Wiranto's position and he knows it. Pop disillusionment with the traditional political elite has dra public attention back to the armed forces.

Dimas explains: "In a time of uncertainty, military m (and this includes a current minister and president hopeful, Susilo Bambang Yudoyhono) are perceived the public as offering a combination of strong leadersh and a clear vision for the future." However, Goenaw Mohamad, the revered former editor of Tempo magazin is skeptical: "If you have money it's easy to make an i pact in Golkar. I doubt whether he'd do as well outside t party."

Having spent many years at the heart of Indonesia's power-politics, the general has an easy familiarity with the gion's issues and its key personalities, unlike Presid Megawati. He has also done his best to assure the country's commercially powerful Chinese community: "Of cou there are always ups and downs in bilateral relations b generally we're in a good position to settle things beca there is a great deal of trust between us.

"Indonesia is Asean's natural leader. We need to build our regional bonds. Besides, I don't want my country to the region's problem any longer. I want us to become one its problem solvers."

Indonesia's democracy is so new it defies easy expla tion. Still, Wiranto's continuing presence in the Golkar r is yet another indication of the growing disapproval of t country's leaders and their Machiavellian intrigues, exem fied by his rival Akbar Tanjung's possible deal with Megaw over the presidency.

As a proponent of "strong-man" government, the gen al has ensured a certain degree of popular support. Ho ever, as a political neophyte, it remains to be seen wh he'll be able to capitalize on this mood, outflank the w Akbar Tanjung and triumph in the upcoming president contest.

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Letter to a daughter in America

REVEILLE

Ramon J. Farolan

THERE was a time when the Philippine Senate was composed of intellectual giants and men of principles like Claro M. Recto, Jose P. Laurel and Quintin Paredes just to name a few. One such individual was the late Tomas L. Cabili, a Christian who represented a mixed Christian-Muslim constituency in the province of Lanao.

The son of Guillermo Cabili and Epifania Lluisma, Tomas L. Cabili was born in Iligan City, Lanao del Norte. Today marks the last day of the Cabili Centenary, a year-long celebration of the life and times of Tomas L. Cabili, the first defense secretary after the end of World War II. A lawyer by profession, he was elected as the lone delegate of Lanao to the constitutional convention. As history would have it, he would become the only delegate whose signature does not appear in the 1935 charter. His refusal to approve the draft constitution was based on the belief that discriminatory provisions against Muslims were contained in the document. This made it unacceptable to him.

With the outbreak of World War II, he joined the underground forces in Mindanao and was instrumental in holding together the different guerrilla factions in the area, at one time, preventing a bloody confrontation between two American-led elements that were vying for control of operations in the South.

After Liberation, Cabili was elected to the Senate and became an indefatigable advocate of the rural development program, an obsession of President Ramon Magsaysay. For his work in this program, he was known as the "Father of the Barrio Council Law."

Going through some personal papers and documents on Cabili, I found a letter to his daughter, Maymuna (now Mrs. Apolonio Bautista) who was a student in Lakewood, New Jersey in 1956. It reveals his private thoughts on America, local politics and the importance of a good education. There are times when communications such as the one which follows are more revealing of an individual than lengthy personal contact.

My dear Maymuna:

I enjoyed immensely reading your letters. It is apparent that you are enjoying your stay and that you are surrounded by pleasant companions. I hope you will make the most out of your studies and meet people. More important than book learning is the personal contact with great people. I mean people that will help you build a well-rounded personality, people who have ideals and whose lives are consecrated to a good cause. Your life will be the sum total of your education, your friends, and your perspective. If I must be biblical, I remember a beautiful phrase which I love to repeat—Whatsoever that is beautiful, of good report, and Godly, cleave to these things.

America is a beautiful country, the people are progressive and their way of life, and government is the best. They know how to live and they appreciate and value those things that give dignity and honor to individuals and nation. I have profited much during my sojourn in America, that is why I was eager to send you to the States so that you will have the opportunity and the privilege of enjoying the bountiful blessings that America bestows upon her citizens. But of course there are many things also in America that are not uplifting but American girls and boys have more freedom at an early age than ours. This is so because they are more advanced and they are taught to take care of themselves. Look, listen, and observe carefully their ways. Don't imbibe those things that will make you out of place in our country.

Let every minute count, your time is precious and it is with a great sacrifice that I sent you there. I shall feel compensated if you will turn out to be the woman I hope you to be.

Politics is getting hot. Senator Recto has decided to throw his hat into the ring. Many people are urging me to run for the Senate but I feel I would take it easy and run for the House. I feel that my chances of getting the Speakership is bright.

The children are all ok. They are missing you and they talk a lot about you. Christmas was not as frivolous and noisy as last year. People don't have much money to spend. Prices are going up. Unemployment remains unsolved.

Magsaysay, in spite of all his blunders, will still be re-elected.

I have given you all the freedom and no restrictions. I hope you will be judicious in the exercise of your freedom.

Your grade looks good but you must improve on your Spanish. You will find it very handy and valuable especially in our country. Don't develop any psychological repulsion against any subject. Each has a purpose.

My regards to your roommates and to those who made your birthday an enjoyable one, my gratitude.

Your Papa,

T. Cabili

* * *

Tomas Cabili was not supposed to be in Cebu on that fateful day in March 1957. But because of his strong alliance with the Osmeñas, President Magsaysay specifically asked for his company on this political swing to the South. He would perish in the crash of the presidential plane.

His son, Camilo would be mayor of Iligan City for close to 30 years. A daughter, Evelyn, would marry AFP Gen. Rodolfo Ecarma, Class of 1954. Their son, Col. Natalio Ecarma III is with the Philippine Marines, a future commandant in the making.

Laughing—and singing—of 'the change'

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

"MENOPAUSE The Musical" is such great fun it makes a woman almost eager to go through "the change." I am not, I must say at this point, going through menopause yet—though I'm feeling symptoms that are suspiciously like "peri" or pre-menopause. So there were moments during the opening night Friday at the Music Museum that I could "feel the pain" of the four women as they sang about failing memories, incontinence, insomnia and thighs that look like cottage cheese. Though I must say, if I would have the same energy, verve, spirit and spunk of these women going through this stage, then bring on the night sweats, the hot flashes, the dry skin and wrinkles!

Learning to celebrate menopause and the changes it brings is just one of the blessings one takes away from a night of "Menopause The Musical." Another has to be the great rockin' entertainment provided by four of our best and most seasoned female performers.

Mitch Valdes, Nanette Inventor, Leah Navarro and Sheila Francisco bring such energy and soul to their roles and their songs that "diva" doesn't even begin to describe their mystique.

"Power Woman" Mitch displays such a powerful voice and commanding stage persona that she doesn't even need a spotlight to dominate a scene. "Earth Mother" Nanette is alternately pathetic and funny, huffing and puffing through an exercise routine and trying to find her center amid the fog of sleeplessness.

And what can I say about Ms Leah, who plays an uhh... ageing soap star struggling to hold on to her looks? Suffice it to say that she's still a babe, a foxy lady, as she proves with her sultry number about her own personal "tropical heat wave."

I hadn't yet watched Sheila Francisco in a stage musicale, but in "Menopause" she more than held her own against the three better-known stars. As the naive "Iowa housewife" suffering from low self-esteem and neglect by her husband, she pulls off the most amazing transformation in the course of the musical, endearing herself to the audience in the process.

* * *

YET another unexpected blessing of "Menopause" are the musical numbers that bring anyone who's about the same age as the women onstage to their youth. Pop hits, most of them dating back to the 1960s and 1970s, are reworked and parodied, bringing these songs of young romance, unrequited love, surfer dudes and California girls to new levels of pathos and absurdity as they now sing of middle-age angst, hormonal shortages, Prozac and vibrators.

Menopause, with all its physical changes, mood swings and depression, is a serious matter. But we seem to have swung from one extreme of ignoring it and trivializing it to the other of talking about it as if it were a matter of life and death. Menopause can be irritating and debilitating, true, but it is temporary and natural, and nothing to be afraid or ashamed of.

Jeannie Linders, the producer and creator of "Menopause The Musical" calls it HRT, humor replacement therapy, offering the menu of laughter and song as a way for women and those who must live with them to laugh at themselves and look at the funny side of "the change." Better than a whole day at the spa, I guarantee!

* * *

"THE ICEMAN Cometh," and its Filipino translation "Pagdating ng Daluyong," on its last weekend at the Wilfrido Ma. Guerrero Theater in UP, has everything to recommend it to theatrical obscurity.

A 1956 review of this Eugene O'Neill drama says it is "too long, repetitious and inclined to be elephantine in its tread." It has only one set: the back room of a New York bar populated by a motley gathering of derelicts and drunkards, men and women floating through life in a fog of alcohol and self-delusion. The dialogues are drawn-out, and yes, repetitive, much more so in the Filipino translation which doesn't seem to have captured the poetry of O'Neill's words. The action is largely stilted.

And yet, and yet, as the same critic grudgingly admits, "Iceman" eventually builds up into "a work of titanic power, one of the authentic masterpieces of the modern theatre, and quite possibly the finest drama ever written."

It is also an acting showcase, but especially for the actor portraying Theodore Hickey, the hardware salesman who intrudes into the boozy world of Harry Hope's bar and insists on shattering the illusions of their "pipe dreams."

* * *

THE HOLLYWOOD star Kevin Spacey won a Tony with his portrayal of Hickey in the 1999 staging of "Iceman" which he also produced.

His counterpart in the Dulaang UP production of "Pagdating ng Daluyong" is movie director Joel Lamangan, taking time off from his full schedule of moviemaking to wrestle with the troubled Hickey, vile bonhomie masking guilt, if not insanity.

At the start, it is difficult to conceive of Hickey as a soul in turmoil, so skillfully does Lamangan portray him as a slick, oily and quite distasteful character. The other occupants of Harry Hope's bar seem but putty in his malicious hands.

Lamangan never quite wins the audience's sympathy, and one feels the playwright never intended to make us feel sorry for Hickey, anyway. But it's the mask of conviviality and ruthlessness over a swirling cauldron of guilt and blame that marks Lamangan's depth and skill. Certainly, I could never watch another movie of his without remembering that the man behind the camera is himself an actor of great power.

In an interview, Spacey said that staging and acting in a revival of "Iceman" were to him "a gift and a responsibility." So was it for a member of the audience, granted the privilege of sitting in on the world of failed dreamers and lovable losers.

Is a non-killing society possible?

PUBLIC LIVES

Randy David

PROF. Glenn Paige, the author of a book with the curious title, "Nonkilling Global Political Science," is visiting the Philippines, and has been asking scholars and activists the unsettling question "Is a non-killing Filipino society possible?" Below is the shortened version of the comment I read in a forum on this question at the University of the Philippines.

The national anthem of the Philippines, sung every day by schoolchildren, ends with these words: *"Aming ligaya na pag may mang-aapi/ Ang mamatay nang dahil sa iyo."* (Rough translation: Should an oppressor come/ Our joy would be to die for you.) In the 1970s, student activists thought this line to be passive, and started to sing a version that replaced the word *"mamatay"* (to die) with *"pumatay"* (to kill). As a people with a long history of resistance against foreign invaders, our initiation to patriotic citizenship incorporates a readiness to kill and die for our country. Is a non-killing Filipino nation possible then? If our past were to be our sole guide, the answer would perhaps be a "no."

But if we look ahead to the future we desire, yes, I believe that a non-killing Philippine society is not only possible but also necessary. I do not believe that it is human nature to kill. There is no human nature outside of the formative context of social relationships and institutions in which human beings become what they are. We can change our being by changing the relations that shape us. A non-killing society would be a society that has succeeded in substituting rational negotiation and moral commitment for coercion as the basis for compliance and cooperation among its citizens.

I think of the history of humankind as the gradual march toward cultures free from violence. I regard the complex moral acrobatics that communities like ours go through to justify killing as symptoms of a growing moral aversion toward all forms of killing. The passionate debate on capital punishment, the narrowing moral and legal justification for war, and the mounting arguments against the manufacture and ownership of weapons of increasing lethality all attest to this shift in consciousness.

Moreover, there is moral progress when respect is accorded not only to human life but to human dignity as well. It is important to bear this in mind because throughout history killing was deemed acceptable when the victims were seen as less than human.

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Yet, as before, killing is easy on the conscience when the deed is abstracted and the victim is objectified. So long as the pilot bomber sees in his cross hairs not living communities but little dots of reflected light on his screen, and so long as the death of civilians is dismissed as "collateral damage," killing is purged of its moral repugnance. So is the awesome lethality of American bombs softened when they are referred to as "patriot missiles." By this same semantic sleight of hand is the cold and ugly economics of the whole American arms industry hidden beneath the rhetoric of liberation, democracy and national security.

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Instead he guided his nation toward democracy—rejecting the example set by his mentor, former President Suharto. Certainly Filipinos will acknowledge Wiranto's welcome commitment to democracy and reform.

Or, alternatively will his reputation be tarnished by his alleged role in the atrocities that roiled East Timor in 1999 after a referendum sealed the territory's independence?

Even in his current guise as a political candidate, the Central Javanese military man seems to carry the full weight of the past on his shoulders. His tired eyes reflect a man battling to resurrect his "name" every step of the way.

However, he's adamant that his entry into politics isn't driven by a need to justify his past actions: "I'm not here to redeem myself. Such ideas are fanciful and exaggerated. It is my calling and my mission to serve the nation. It comes from here (he points at his chest). I want to defend and lead the nation. I'm not here in search of respect, publicity or glamour."

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"I offer my track record as a military man and a minister. I have worked extremely hard for my people. I have attended to the interests of the ordinary man. I helped shepherd through the country's transition to democracy, observing the Constitution every step of the way. I never took advantage of the situation.

"Why am I entering politics now? Back in 1998 we all expected that the new political leaders would address the country's problems. At the time, there was an agreement between the leading political players that Indonesia would become safer, more just and a prosperous nation and that there would be less corruption.

"But none of that has happened. Look at the present situation. We still don't have the stability we need. We are still in a mess. I feel that the country needs strong leadership and I'm here to provide it."

"However, you cannot separate politics from economics," he says confidently. "I've been thinking about such issues ever since I left the government. My key goal would be to find employment for the people—unemployment is extremely high at the moment.

"We need to make the investment climate more stable. Of course, I'm optimistic that Indonesians can find solutions for challenges such as the rise of China. It's vital for us to give confidence to investors. We need to guarantee stability and the rule of law. I would want to improve the enforcement and implementation of our laws. They have to be applied in a consistent manner."

Still, Wiranto's candidacy and its success have perplexed much of the international community. Meidyatama Suryodiningrat (or Dimas), a political analyst, explains: "Foreigners and especially Australians and Americans don't seem to understand how little Timor registers on the minds of Indonesians. We've faced countless other crises—in Ambon, in Poso and now in Acheh. These conflicts matter a great deal more to Indonesians. The outside world is fixated on Timor. They ignore the extent to which someone like Wiranto is actually quite popular domestically."

Certainly, his well-funded and professionally run campaign has managed to generate a surprising amount of political "heat." Long known for his good looks, calm authority and Javanese understatement, Wiranto has surprised his countrymen with his readiness to hit the ground and press the flesh. He has even become the head of a large stallholders' association, the Assosiasi Perhimpunan Warung Tegal and launched a CD of his own songs, entitled "For You My Indonesia."

The recent acquittal of Akbar Tanjung (the Golkar chairman) and Megawati Sukarnoputri's haphazard leadership, have strengthened Wiranto's position and he knows it. Popular disillusionment with the traditional political elite has drawn public attention back to the armed forces.

Dimas explains: "In a time of uncertainty, military men (and this includes a current minister and presidential hopeful, Susilo Bambang Yudoyhono) are perceived by the public as offering a combination of strong leadership and a clear vision for the future." However, Goenawan Mohamad, the revered former editor of Tempo magazine, is skeptical: "If you have money it's easy to make an impact in Golkar. I doubt whether he'd do as well outside the party."

Having spent many years at the heart of Indonesia's power-politics, the general has an easy familiarity with the region's issues and its key personalities, unlike President Megawati. He has also done his best to assure the country's commercially powerful Chinese community: "Of course there are always ups and downs in bilateral relations but generally we're in a good position to settle things because there is a great deal of trust between us.

"Indonesia is Asean's natural leader. We need to build on our regional bonds. Besides, I don't want my country to be the region's problem any longer. I want us to become one of its problem solvers."

Indonesia's democracy is so new it defies easy explanation. Still, Wiranto's continuing presence in the Golkar race is yet another indication of the growing disapproval of the country's leaders and their Machiavellian intrigues, exemplified by his rival Akbar Tanjung's possible deal with Megawati over the presidency.

As a proponent of "strong-man" government, the general has ensured a certain degree of popular support. However, as a political neophyte, it remains to be seen whether he'll be able to capitalize on this mood, outflank the wily Akbar Tanjung and triumph in the upcoming presidential contest.

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TALK of the TOWN

Please send feedback to
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Editor Juan V. Sarmiento Jr.

ELECTION 2004

Gil: I'll pay off country's debts

UNTIL the last minute, the camp of presidential candidate Eddie Gil could not submit his stand on issues that Talk of the Town believes presidential aspirants should address.

His inability to come up with his positions on issues despite repeated requests by this section raised questions about his ability to launch a nationwide campaign.

Some have suggested that Talk of the Town just ignore Gil, whom a rival candidate wants disqualified by the Commission on Elections for being a "nuisance" candidate.

Gil claims that he is not a nuisance candidate because he has a political party duly accredited by the Comelec. Besides, he says he has a running mate, Rodolfo Pajo, and senatorial candidates—Eddie Ilarde, Ramon Montano, Jose Floro Crisologo, Pilar Pilapil, Loida Cuneta Belmonte, Elcid Marcos Fajardo and Usop Matuan. (Ilarde, Pilapil and Crisologo abandoned Gil last week.)

Because the poll body has not disqualified Gil, voters have the right to know his platform of government.

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Partido Isang Bansa Isang Diwa

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Unfortunately, for the past 18 years, our country has lagged behind many of our Asian neighbors because of corruption.

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Many are saying that corruption has become part of our culture so that while it can be minimized, it may not be totally eradicated. I don't believe this. I say that if we practice discipline and do away with the get-rich-quick mentality, corruption will be a thing of the past.

We must have political will, values transformation, transparency and accountability. Definitely, we must maintain our faith in God Almighty for all our acts. We must be God-fearing.

I say there is much hope that the Filipino people can be united if we do away with the walls of prejudice and hate— the barriers that hamper efforts for an accelerated economic growth.

I am happy to say that at the Isang Bansa Isang Diwa (Ibid), we advocate *maka-Diyos* (pro-God), *maka-bansa* (pro-nation), *maka-tao* (pro-people).

Unifying our people into one nation under one God, I say, is the prerequisite for the attainment of the goal of liberating the poor masses of Filipinos from the chains of poverty. We must move forward to accomplish economic, social and political stability.

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Another priority is settling our national debt—estimated at P5.2 trillion, which our government is supposed to be servicing at the rate of P1.5 billion daily. The debt payment contributes to the budget deficit.

Debt servicing is indeed too much for us Filipinos. How can we breath if have no breathing space?

By settling the foreign debt, the money saved in servicing it can be used to provide better roads and other infrastructure, housing, and school buildings. It can be used to improve our agricultural productivity, implement livelihood programs, and create more job opportunities.

Austerity measures and appropriate revenues will help contain budget deficits.

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Let's do away with globalization, which does not work well for us. Unlike many western countries like the United States, we are not quite prepared for it.

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The congressional pork barrel is one source of corruption in the government. This must be stricken out of our system of governance.

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Inequities in the country's compensation structure must be rectified as soon as possible to diminish labor unrest and bring about industrial peace.

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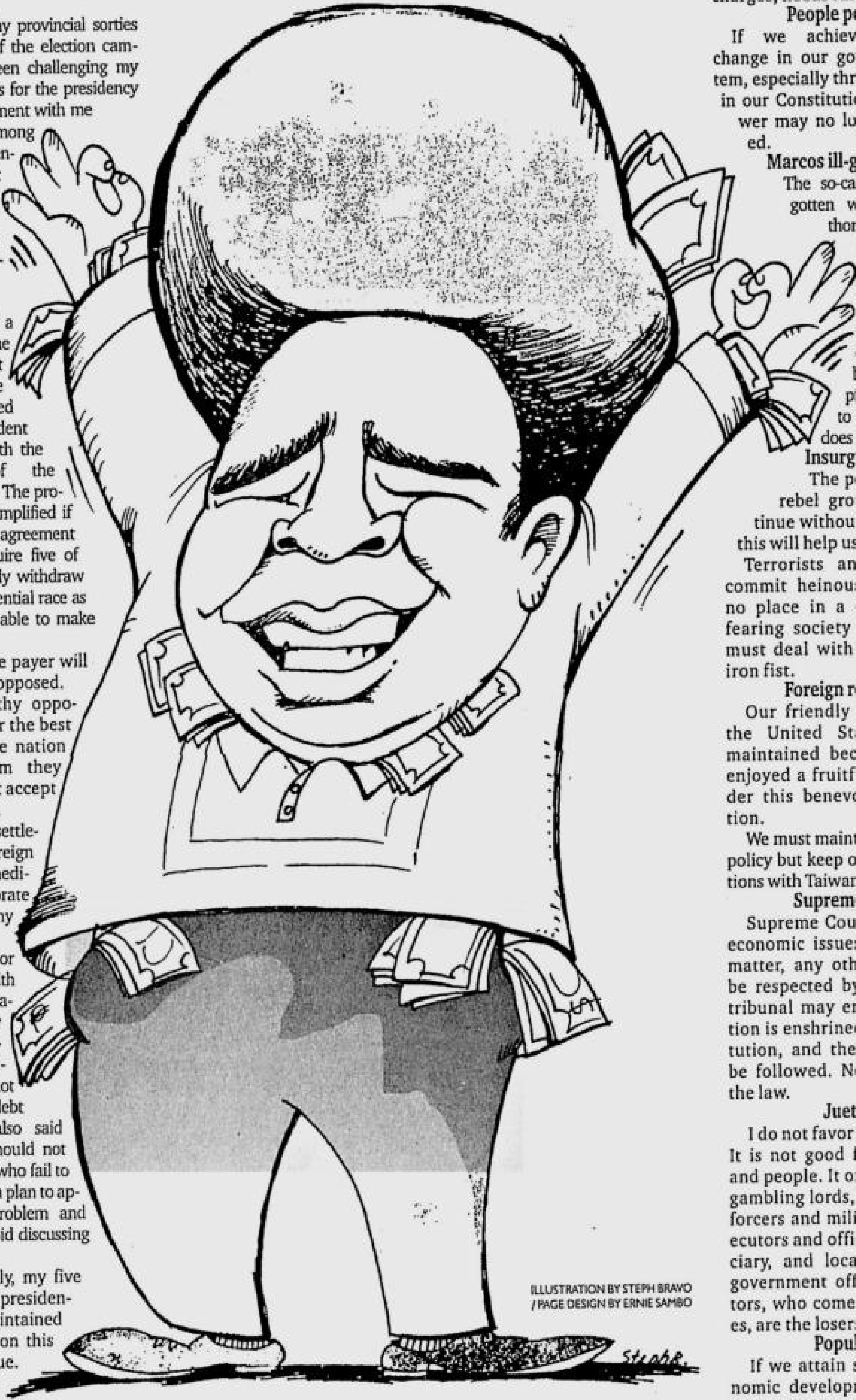

ILLUSTRATION BY STEPH BRAVO / PAGE DESIGN BY ERNIE SAMBO

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No Filipino must go hungry; everyone has to have food on his table. The government must ensure the feeding of its citizens.

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I favor a rewriting of our Constitution. I believe that a shift to the parliamentary form of government from the present presidential system will be good for the country because our national problems are deeply rooted in certain deficiencies in the socio-economic and political system.

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I am for its abolition because it has never been conclusively shown that it is a deterrent to the commission of crimes.

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The so-called Marcos ill-gotten wealth must be thoroughly studied by independent bodies of the government.

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TALK of the TOWN

Please send feedback to
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Editor Juan V. Sarmiento Jr.

ELECTION 2004

Gil: I'll pay off country's debts

UNTIL the last minute, the camp of presidential candidate Eddie Gil could not submit his stand on issues that Talk of the Town believes presidential aspirants should address.

His inability to come up with his positions on issues despite repeated requests by this section raised questions about his ability to launch a nationwide campaign.

Some have suggested that Talk of the Town just ignore Gil, whom a rival candidate wants disqualified by the Commission on Elections for being a "nuisance" candidate.

Gil claims that he is not a nuisance candidate because he has a political party duly accredited by the Comelec. Besides, he says he has a running mate, Rodolfo Pajo, and senatorial candidates—Eddie Ilarde, Ramon Montano, Jose Floro Crisologo, Pilar Pilapil, Loida Cuneta Belmonte, Elcid Marcos Fajardo and Usop Matuan. (Ilarde, Pilapil and Crisologo abandoned Gil last week.)

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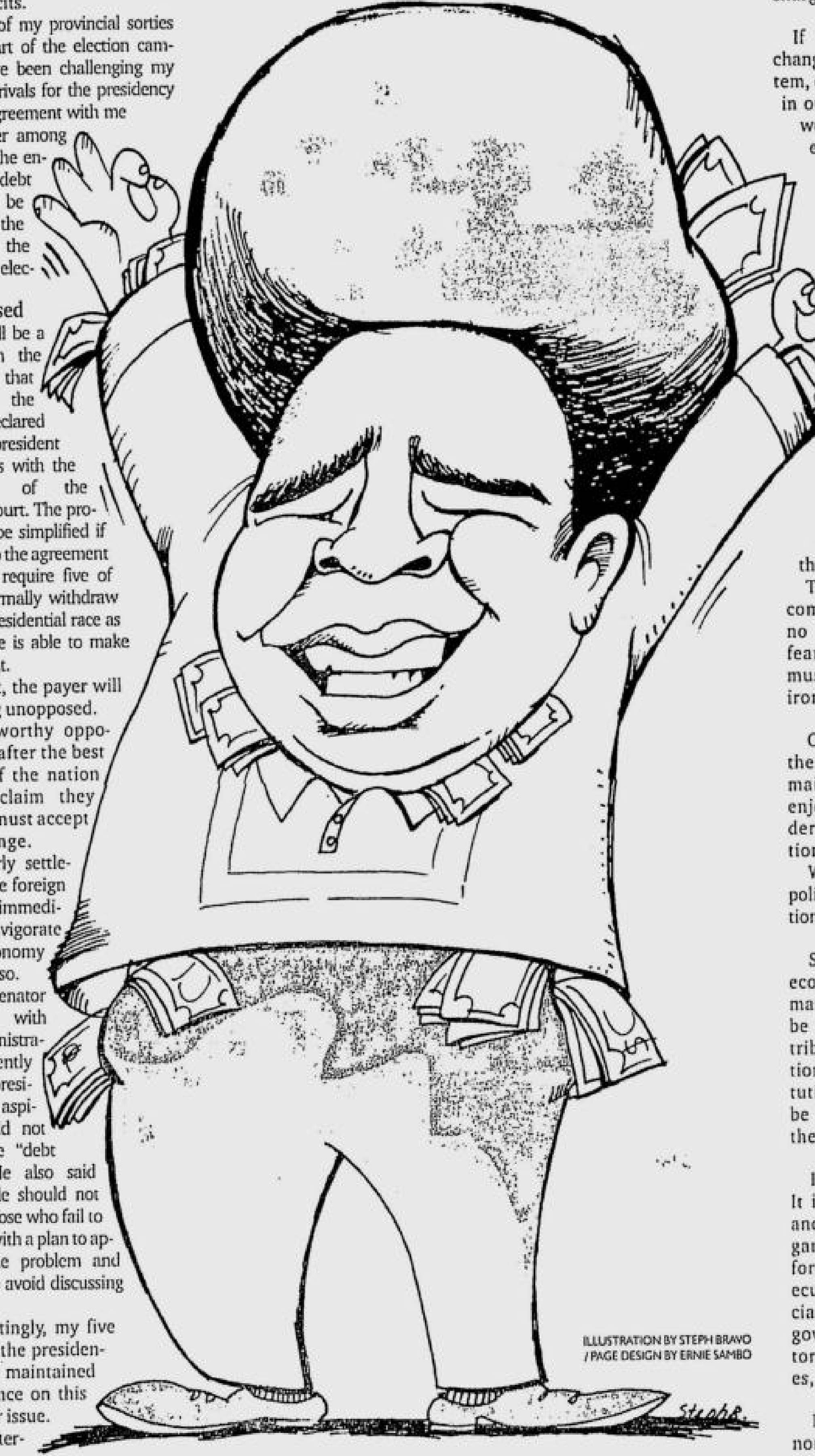

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Ecija raid yields signs of suicide bombing plot

CABANATUAN CITY—Police found signs of a suicide bombing plot after they recovered bombs, guns and bullets, among them C-4 explosives and land mines, from a house in Barangay Pula in Talavera, Nueva Ecija, early Friday.

A man, who identified himself as a mechanic, was arrested in the house, which, police said, served as a safehouse for members of criminal syndicates.

The man, according to Supt. Rhoderick Armamento, police provincial intelligence and investigation bureau chief, was identified as Mario Barrientos, 43, alias "Kato."

Barrientos yielded three identification cards, one of which indicated he is with a "Pasig Security Force" and another that showed he is a member of "Kabalikat Civico," purportedly a communications group.

Another ID indicated he is a member of the Federation of Senior Citizens, an organization of senior citizens' groups whose members are at least 60 years old.

Barrientos is suspected to have connections with the Abu Sayyaf as a firearms and explosives dealer, police said. He may also be dealing with other criminal groups by supplying them with firearms for a fee, they added.

Recovered from the house were 17 pieces of clamor mines, two pieces of C-4 explosive (US-made), a 16-mm baby Armalite, two 9mm pistols, a .38 cal. revolver, a 22 cal. revolver, 160 rounds of ammunition for Armalite, 50 rounds for .45 cal. gun, two rounds for rifle grenade, and 30 rounds for .40 cal. gun.

The explosives, according to experts, can blow a big area and can destroy buildings.

Also found in the yard of the house was a jeep, which has a compartment in its floor for explosives.

Police said the vehicle was being readied for suicide bombing. They recovered what could be a suicide note bearing the words "Balik-Islam Congress." The note was unsigned.

Armamento said the raiding group was composed of agents from the Anti-Crime Task Force, third intelligence security unit of the Army's Intelligence Security Group, 307th Provincial Mobile Group, Talavera police, and the Nueva Ecija police.

He said Barrientos was undergoing tactical interrogation at the PNP headquarters here.

The raiding team was armed with a search warrant issued by Judge Rodrigo Caspillo of the regional trial court here.

Armamento said the raid came after two weeks of surveillance on the activities of Barrientos.

In Davao City, the military said it has uncovered a plot by communist rebels to destabilize the government prior to the May elections.

Lt. Col. Agane Adriatico, military spokesperson for Southeastern Mindanao, said the military has recently uncovered the plot, which started in December.

He said the rebels, particularly those belonging to the two regional committees, were focusing on ideological, political and organizational objectives and enticing new recruits to weaken the government. *Anselmo Roque, PDI Central Luzon Desk with a report from Anthony S. Allada, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Hopes raised for rescue of Sabah kidnap victims

ZAMBOANGA CITY—After more than four months of a fruitless search, naval authorities have now established a lead on the whereabouts of the five persons kidnapped in Sabah, Malaysia in October 2003.

Commodore George Uy, Naval Forces Western Mindanao commander, told the INQUIRER that the arrest of three suspected Abu Sayyaf members in Tawi-Tawi on March 2 has given them hope that would lead to the rescue of the kidnap victims.

The suspects, identified as Misbal Saing Mawali, Jahmil Kahmil and Udas Bahari, were arrested after they were positively identified by two witnesses as responsible for the killing of Rodrigo Alejandro and his son Johnny last February 28.

The elder Alejandro was killed after he was suspected of being a military spy, Uy said. *Julie S. Alipala, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Luli charms Pampanga students, makes pitch for ma's campaign

By Tonette Orejas
PDI Central Luzon Desk

BACOLOR, Pampanga—President Macapagal-Arroyo's only daughter Evangelina Lourdes, more known as Luli, is turning out to be her mother's ace among the youth.

On Friday, she not only represented the President during the launch of the Students' Assistance Fund for Education for a Strong Republic (SAFE4SR) at the Don Honorio Ventura College of Arts and Trade (DHVCAT) here but also made a strong pitch for her mother.

"I hope you help my mother win in the election. (SAFE4SR) is her priority program and if she is going to win, this program is going to be continued and expanded," she said during an open forum.

"The funds are secured even if my mother is out of office," she added.

This was the first known occasion that Luli spoke in public in Pampanga, where her elder brother Juan Miguel Arroyo is vice governor.

She emphasized in her brief speech the importance of education especially among young people from poor families.

The value of education, she said, was learned by her grandfather, the late President Diosdado Macapagal, from philanthropist Don Honorio Ventura.

The 143-year-old DHVCAT, the oldest vocational school in Asia, was named after Ventura. It was Luli's first time to set foot in the school of the philanthropist who made a big impact on the life of her grandfather, the poor, slipper-clad boy from Lubao town.

Luli said it was also Ventura who imbued in her grandfather a deep sense of public service. She expressed hope that many students would join public service and help in the progress of the country.

The SAFE4SR, she said, gives opportunity to poor students. The program lends a maximum of P8,000 without interest.

Ares Goyena of the National Youth Commission said Ms Macapagal had ordered the pooling of at least P1 billion for the students' loan program.

Goyena told the students that half of the amount had been released to the Commission on Higher Education.

Luli charmed the students with her straightforward answers that, expectedly, were partial to her mother.

The students told her about the prospect of unemployment and the possibility of being unable to pay the loan.

But Luli said her mother had worked to create three million jobs since she assumed office in 2001 when the number of the jobless in the country was pegged at four million.

The students and the teachers also appealed to her to bring the school's predicament to her mother.

Mt. Pinatubo's lahar, bursting through the Gugu Dike, swamped DHVCAT in 1995 and destroyed many buildings and training tools.

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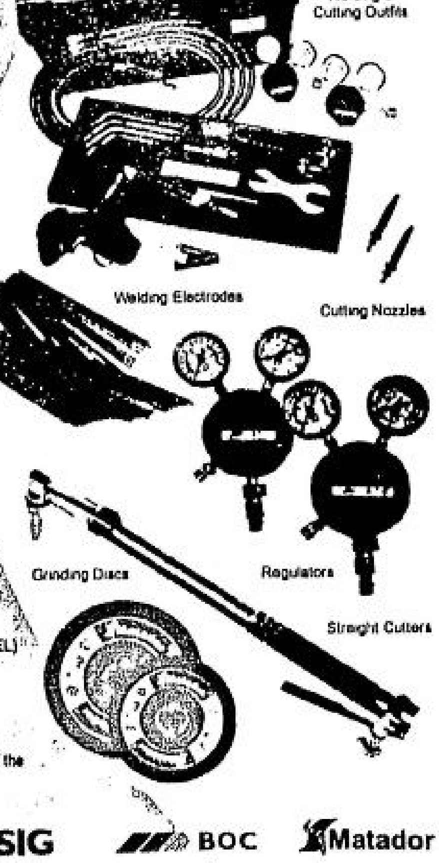

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Gloria tells squatters along Panay railway: No relocation, no eviction

By Raj Padilla
PDI Visayas Bureau

ILOILO CITY—President Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday promised to withhold the rehabilitation program for the Panay Railways Inc. (PRI) until people living along the railways are relocated.

President Macapagal, speaking over MBC Askyon Radyo, said the government is shelling out funds for the purchase of relocation sites for displaced squatters.

"Of course, there will be no rehabilitation if we have no relocation sites for them to speak of. We are doing this in Luzon already," the President said.

Conscious that it will spur economic growth, the national government has embarked on the rehabilitation of railway systems all over the country.

Ms Macapagal, who was scheduled to visit Iloilo City on March 16 for the PRI groundbreaking ceremony, did not say how much the government would spend for the relocation sites and from where the money would come.

Earlier, the national government approved a P23.5-billion rehabilitation project for PRI. Its railway stretches from Iloilo City to Roxas City. A European consortium was given the project.

Records showed that there are approximately 5,000 squatters along the PRI railway.

The project will integrate the existing railway line with the New Iloilo Airport of international standards in the boundary of Cabatuan and Sta. Barbara towns as well as with routes of public utility vehicles bound for Aklan province.

Early on, PRI general manager Hannibal Lipardo said that there would be no clearing of the railway trail before the groundbreaking ceremony.

Lipardo said though that they might proceed with it after the consortium's heavy equipment and facilities arrived at the Iloilo international port in Barangay Loboc in La Paz district.

PRI was in operation in Panay Island until the mid-1980s when it closed shop.

REFUGE
EDWIN BACASMAS
Actor and now presidential candidate Fernando Poe Jr. seeks refuge in a chapel in Palo, Leyte during a sortie in the province. The so-called king of Philippine movies would need more than just prayers, however, to hurdle the obstacles of politics.

Ombudsman spares gov, vice gov from suspension over fund scam

GENERAL SANTOS CITY—The Office of the Ombudsman-Mindanao ordered the 60-day preventive suspension of at least 14 government employees named as conspirators in a multimillion-peso fund scam in Sarangani province.

But the elected provincial officials charged in connection with the scam had been spared.

Fr. Fred Maghanoy, chair of the Sarangani Action for Reform and Good Governance (Spare Go), a local anti-graft coalition, said the issuance of the suspension order was a partial victory for the group but they were saddened because none of the big fishes were included.

Maghanoy said ordinary employees were the first ones to be suspended, not the masterminds of the P50-million scam that involved the illegal disbursement of funds to ghost cooperatives and non-government organizations.

Deputy Ombudsman for Mindanao Antonio Valenzuela on Feb. 24 ordered the suspension without pay of Mary Ann Gadian, computer operator II; Sherryl Desiree Jane Tangan, local legislative assistant I; provincial accountant Maria D. Camanay; Amelia Carmela Constantino-Zoleta, daughter and executive assistant III of Vice Gov. Felipe Constantino; provincial administrator Perla Maglinte; provincial agriculturist Romeo Miole and assistant provincial agriculturist Patricio Sol; Suzette Clerigo, accountant IV and head of accounting department; Rosario Concon, assistant treasurer; Vivencia Telesforo, management audit analyst III; Marlene Rafael, accountant III; Roselyn Constantino, wife of Malungon town Vice Mayor Reynaldo Constantino and head of the pre-audit division; Snooky Banderado, fiscal examiner II and Diosdada Pamplona, management audit analyst II.

Gov. Miguel Escobar and Vice Gov. Constantino were not included in the suspension order.

Instead, the Ombudsman directed Escobar, one of those charged, to immediately implement the suspension order.

In his order, Valenzuela said the new Local Government Code prohibits the issuance of suspension orders against elected officials.

Maghanoy, however, said the Omnibus Election Code allows the suspension of elected officials during the 90-day election period if the charges involved graft and corruption.

Valenzuela stood pat in his decision saying "... it is the stand of this office that within this period it will not issue preventive suspension against any elective officials in all administrative cases pending before it...

"The law on suspension must be strictly interpreted and applied and the authority upon whom such power of suspension is vested must exercise with utmost good faith."

"Although, we are happy we are also dismayed because the masterminds and the main conspirators must be the first to be suspended," Maghanoy said. *Aquiles Z. Zonio, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Filipino maid dies in fall as she fled abusive employer

CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY—A Filipino maid died after falling from the third floor of her Lebanese employer's house in Beirut while trying to escape, a relative said Friday.

Louella Susan Montenegro landed on a concrete pavement, which doubles as a parking lot, when the nylon cord she was using to escape her employer's house broke, according to Cynthia Cayton, her sister, quoting a report from the Philippine Embassy in Beirut.

Cayton said her sister had long wanted to go home because she could no longer bear the treatment she was receiving from her employer.

Cayton said prior to her death, Montenegro told them that she was determined to run away and seek refuge at the embassy so she could be repatriated.

She said that was the last time they made contact.

On Feb. 25, her sister died.

Montenegro, 46, who was separated from her husband, hails from Barangay Southern Poblacion in Maramag, Bukidnon.

At the time of her death, she was raising all her children.

Montenegro, who previously worked as a factory worker in Manila, decided to try her luck abroad.

On Sept. 29, 2003, she left for Lebanon but later realized she became a victim of an illegal recruiter.

But her employer Alliah Alliedin, who met her at the airport, facilitated her working visa.

Since arriving in Beirut, Cayton said her sister had been complaining that she could no longer bear the physical and emotional torment she had been experiencing.

"I want to go home now to rest, my back pains, if I could fly back home I would really take a rest," she quoted Montenegro as saying during their last conversation.

Cayton said during her escape, her sister likely used the nylon cord, attached to a pulley, which her employer used to send her food.

"My sister was not allowed to go out. Her food were brought up to her room through the nylon cord," she said.

Cayton said her sister was only able to call her when her employer was out of the house, normally 7 p.m. in Beirut.

She said when they started receiving her sister's complaints they coordinated with the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration.

"We literally begged them to send someone who could verify her situation but to no avail. She told us that (Welfare Officer Manuela) Peña only called her twice," Cayton said.

After each conversation with Peña, Cayton said the official only called Alliedin and told her about Montenegro's complaint.

Her sister, she said, also called the embassy at least four times and made the same complaint.

But embassy officials never visited her, Cayton said. *Grace Cantal-Albasin, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

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Bets told to present plans for progress

AN Waray, a party-list candidate advocating socio-economic development programs for depressed provinces, challenged visiting national candidates to provide a clear blueprint on how the Eastern Visayas region will ultimately prosper after years of neglect and underdevelopment.

An Waray chair and founder Bem Noel in a statement expressed lament over the fact that the Waraynons and even the Mindanaoans have become the favorite "poster boys" for poverty and backwardness by national candidates in every election but they have done little to address such problems when they are in power.

"Our significance is only measured through the ballots, but after that, they (national candidates) seem to forget us and only to be remembered when another election season comes," Noel said in his statement.

Eastern Visayas, which has a total population of 3.6 million with an estimated voting population of 2.1 million, is lagging behind.

Gunmen try to bomb relay station of telecoms firm

BACOLOD CITY—About five armed men lobbed two grenades and four bottles of gel gasoline at dawn Friday at the main relay station of Globe Telecom located at a commercial district here, causing a minor fire and injuring a security guard.

The armed men, who arrived on board a dark-colored Sedan at around 2:30 a.m., also fired their M-16 rifles at the building, located along Calamba Street, before escaping in the Sedan to the northern section of the city, according to Senior Supt. Mario Avenido, Bacolod's police director.

Security guard Reynaldo Genovea, who was keeping watch in front of the building, suffered shrapnel injuries in the body and was brought to the Doctor's Hospital here for treatment. He had been declared out of danger.

The grenades and the bottles of gel gasoline landed on the roof of the two-story building but failed to destroy the structure. It, however, caused a fire that damaged the building's roof and destroyed the drainage pipes attached to the roofing system.

The attack also failed to disrupt Globe Telecom's operations in Bacolod City and its nearby service areas, Avenido said.

Avenido said the manner in which the grenade lobbing incident was done was professional but the police could not say yet if the New People's Army (NPA) was responsible for it.

He said Globe officials in Bacolod City have informed him that they had not received any extortion letters or threats from the NPA in recent months that would lead them to believe that the NPA was behind the attack.

In January 2003, the NPA admitted firing an M-203 grenade launcher at a Globe cell site in Escalante City, Negros Occidental. They also admitted responsibility for the burning of a Globe cell site in Dumarao, Capiz, late last year.

The NPA-Negros said they carried out these actions against the telecoms firm for its failure to pay revolutionary taxes. *Carla P. Gomez, PDI Visayas Bureau*

E-mail: pr_provincial_news@inquirer.com.ph

INQUIRER Mindanao

Editor Jun Bandayrel
Bureau Chief Nico A. Alconaba

Model farmer bridges cultural gaps

By Aquiles Z. Zonio
General Santos City

IN THE clear, blue sky, the sun was reflected in the waters of Sarangani Bay. It was going to be another wonderful day, I thought.

We walked away from the clusters of mango trees to feel the gentle morning warmth and savor the entire view of the place overlooking the city and the scenic bay. It was the perfect hideaway, with the air reinvigorating and the deafening silence consuming.

I was visiting a long-time Muslim friend Alimuddin Hassan, who has been regularly spending weekends there during the past eight years. The place is part of an 18-hectare ancestral land in Sitio Blagan, Barangay San Jose, just a 30-minute ride from the heart of the city.

At 62, Al, as he is fondly called in the family and by friends, knows that he has almost reached the crossroads of his life and wants to leave a sort of legacy to his children—a piece of property made productive through sheer hard work, industry and fortitude.

Self-reliant

Al's passion for farming started sometime in 1992. He had only one work animal—a horse—then. He said he was just renting animals from his neighborhood to till his land. He could hardly remember borrowing money just to develop the property.

At first, he said he encountered problems due to lack of water supply. Thanks to former Rep. Adelbert Antonino, who sourced out funds to put up a P2-million water system, about 1,200 mango trees are now bearing fruits in 15 hectares of the land.

Al has been hauling an average of 15 tons of mangoes per harvest over the last three seasons.

Under the mango trees, he has planted watermelons. The remaining three hectares were devoted to export-quality pineapples under a contract-growing scheme with the Tupi Integrated Agricultural Cooperative, a financing and marketing firm that supplies pineapples to Dole Philippines Inc.

Muslim tradition

Among the admirable traits of Al is his openness, as well as his ability to transcend the "cultural barrier."

By allowing three of his five daughters to marry Christians, he has virtually defied the age-old Muslim tradition. He cited the preservation of Islam as among the main reasons traditionalist Muslims did not allow their daughters to marry Christians. He strongly believes that intermarriages between Muslims and Christians could help foster harmony and hasten the attainment of peace in Mindanao.

His son-in-law Joel Tablizo, husband of his eldest daughter Dayang, works alongside his only son Yasser in the farm. This has been his most cherished dream—to see Christians and Muslims work hand in hand to develop Mindanao.

Still, he respects the path chosen by many of his Muslim brothers in airing their grievances against the government.

Setting an example

In his heart, Al was once a revolutionary, but education taught him to embrace non-violent struggle. He has learned to give utmost value to family, education and hard work.

His own life was an example. He loves to spend his time with his family. They usually go and spend the weekends together in the farm.

Five of his children finished college and the youngest is a high school student.

At first, Al was hesitant to talk about his life, but he was later convinced when he was told not only his fellow Muslims but also the *lumad* and Christians would learn a lot from his experiences.

He noted that in Mindanao, many Muslims own vast tracts of land but their lives remain miserable because they fail to give utmost importance to family, education and hard work.

He remembers what his late father used to say: "Be a just man. Love your workers so they will love you in return. If you have blessings, share it with them."

At present, Al has six workers—four at his farm in Blagan and another two in Crossing Rubber. Aside from free ration of smoked or dried fish every weekend, the workers and their families have been given land to till.

Al does not get any share from the fruits of their toils. The workers get all the proceeds. They are even paid for whatever work they render in Al's 18-hectare farm.

He treats his workers like family members. They share the same food and table at meal time.

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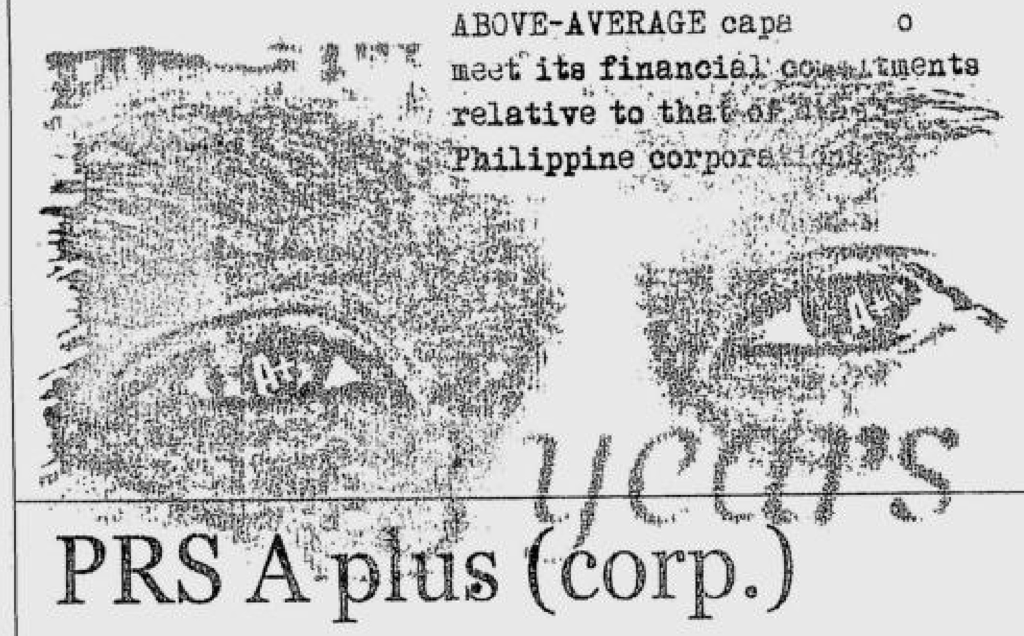

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ELECTION 2004

ALL in a day's work: From Bukidnon, the President proceeds to Surigao City, Surigao del Norte, for another barnstorming session with vice presidential bet Noli de Castro in the bailiwick of reelectionist Sen. Robert Barbers (extreme left) and other Barbers family members like Rep. Ace Barbers (to the President's left).

A WHIRL of people follows Fernando Poe Jr. wherever he goes in his campaign rally in Tacloban City, Leyte on Saturday. (Lower left)

A WHISTLE stop for Sen. Ping Lacson at the public market of Sta. Ana, Pampanga. (Below)

MALACANANG PHOTO

EDWIN BACASMAS

JOE GALVEZ/CONTRIBUTOR

New improved Gloria with Mona Lisa smile

From page A1

smile often—and without the trademark smirk.

The new "Gloria smile" did not go unnoticed when the President visited the INQUIRER offices for dinner and a chat with executives, editors and reporters last Thursday.

"This has always been my smile as far as I know," a chuckling Ms Macapagal protested, to comments that she seemed to have an "improved" smile.

"It's just that I didn't smile as much before because I was so busy with my work," she said.

But Palace sources said the new smile was part of a new overall campaign image that the President and her image-makers have put together.

A Palace source said the President began flashing the "Gloria smile" a month before the national campaign period started on Feb. 10.

No more smirk

"If you noticed, no more smirk. Her disposition is better, lighter," one Palace source said.

"She also cannot grow her hair long, this will be her [trademark] haircut," the source added.

But Ms Macapagal vehemently denied at the INQUIRER dinner that she had been coached on how to smile.

"You know, one thing about me, I cannot [pretend] ... what you see is what you get. That's why you see me *taray*[cross] because I'm very natural," she said.

She thanked the editor who suggested that maybe it was not so much that the President was smiling more but that she was smiling better.

Asked why she was smiling more these days, the President explained that it must be because of the nature of a campaign.

"In a campaign you're waving at people, you can't be waving with a frown," she said.

Natural to smile

It's natural to smile when you're spending the day greeting people, she said.

"But if you're meeting hog raisers and you're debating prices, well, you don't smile," said the President who just happened to be tackling that day the issue of high pork prices which had led meat suppliers to declare a "pork holiday" in protest.

"I don't know. My smile has always been the same. But certainly, when I'm having a meeting [and dealing with] problem-solving, which I do a lot, I cannot come out of the meeting with a big smile," she said.

Like any politician, Ms Macapagal can quite easily switch from beaming sweetly at, and even waving to, people and potential supporters, to fixing with a stern look some of the officials who happened to cross her on a certain day.

How to avoid a scolding

A former Cabinet official tells how whenever the results-oriented President gave her officials a scolding during out-of-town trips, they would whisper in her ear that there was a group of people she needed to greet.

On cue, the President would cease the scolding, turn away from her officials, flash a smile and wave or start shaking hands with the new arrivals.

Leaving the issue of the new smile, the President acknowledged one thing that she thought she could have done better in retrospect.

"I should have communicated more," she said.

"I was so busy doing my job and I thought that if you're doing your job, naturally people will understand what you're doing, but it's not so," she said.

Pet project

She said the INQUIRER executives could not have known about one of her pet projects—the provision of clean water to many waterless communities in Metro Manila—if she had not told them about it during the dinner.

"So I need to communicate," she said.

The President, who came from a campaign swing through three Metro Manila cities, discussed a wide range of governance and campaign issues in a no-holds-barred session with the INQUIRER editors.

She was accompanied by Press Secretary Milton Alingod, campaign media bureau chief Cerge Remonde, official development assistance projects adviser Marita "Mai" Jimenez and Press Undersecretary Rocky Nazareno.

An illlegal move, says Roco

By TJ Burgonio

SAN FERNANDO CITY, La Union—Raul Roco thinks President Macapagal-Arroyo should be held liable for ex-President Joseph Estrada's supposed virtual house arrest.

"You can't enter into any special silent arrangement with anybody. Everyone should be given equal treatment. That is what we mean by doing justice to every man," the standard-bearer of the Alyansa ng Pag-asa said yesterday, after delivering an informal talk at the National College of Science and Technology here.

Roco said Ms Macapagal could face charges of usurpation of authority if it would be proven that Estrada's new arrangement did not have the prior approval of the Sandiganbayan.

He said that while this could not be used as grounds for Ms Macapagal's disqualification, it should serve as a warning to the people.

"The electorate should remember that a President who violates the law should not be elected," he said.

Ed Urieta, Sandiganbayan chief sheriff, had said the antigraft court had not granted Estrada permission to stay at his rest house.

But Urieta did not discount the possibility that the ex-President has been visiting his rest house "from time to time."

Ms Macapagal had said it was all right for Estrada to stay at his rest house if that was "within the law."

But Roco said that by granting such a special privilege to Estrada, Ms Macapagal was trying to woo his supporters.

"That's the problem with [her]," Roco said, adding:

"She's using public funds for her own campaign. She's using her power to campaign, which is wrong. This is a travesty of her oath, which is to execute the law and to do justice to every man. And that is wrong. She should explain that to the public."

The President had justified the arrangement, saying it was part of her pledge in her State of the Nation Address in 2001 that she would not oppress Estrada.

Reacting to this, Roco said: "If she's admitting to [oppressing Estrada], then she's saying that the very legitimacy of her government is in question.

"She should resign from the presidency. If the legitimacy is in question by her own act and her own administration, she should stay out and make [Vice President Teofisto] Guingona preside over the election."

GMA faces criminal raps

From page A1

movement is greatly curtailed. And guards are all over the place," he told the INQUIRER by phone.

Lambino said that while the Sandiganbayan had jurisdiction over the President and the other officials under Republic Act No. 7975, it could proceed against Ms Macapagal only after her term of office was over.

But right now, she said, the Ombudsman could investigate even the President under Section 22 of the Ombudsman Law.

Imprisonment

Lambino said she would meet with the other private prosecutors tomorrow to finalize plans.

She said the filing of the criminal complaints against the President, the other officials and Estrada's guards would depend on the say-so of Special Prosecutor Dennis Villa-Ignacio.

She said a violation of Article 223 of the Revised Penal Code (conniving with evasion) "carries a penalty of imprisonment of six months to two years with disqualification from holding his/her office for the duration of the sentence."

The crime of usurpation of function, on the other hand, carries the penalty of imprisonment of two to six months.

Lambino, however, raised doubts as to the success of the planned judicial move against Ms Macapagal et al., supposedly because Malacañang has been holding "hostage" the appointment to the Supreme Court of Sandiganbayan Presiding Justice Minita Chico-Nazario, and because "the present Ombudsman [Simeon Marcelo] is a former lawyer of the President."

"Woe unto our country as the rich and powerful connive with one another so that they would enjoy country club arrest even for plunder, a capital offense, while the poor rot in jail for petty crimes," Lambino said.

Lambino and fellow lawyers Romeo Capulong and Marie Yuvienco—all officials of the PILC—are not only private prosecutors but also complainants in Estrada's plunder case.

The other private prosecutors are Arno Sanidad, Toy Nepomuceno, Leonardo de Vera, Dindo de los Angeles, Anton Peralta, Mildred Pfleider and Migs Silos.

Humanitarian move

In a press conference at Pines Hotel in Malaybalay, Bukidnon, the President reiterated that there was no deal made in exchange for Estrada's move to his rest house.

"There are no political deals involved in this case," she said, adding: "All matters pertaining to the detention of the former President are under the sole and exclusive control of the court. I believe that he is entitled to the fullest humanitarian consideration allowed by law. In the end, nothing is accorded him or taken away without the say of the court."

Defensor, Ms Macapagal's campaign spokesperson, said the administration's perceived leniency vis-a-vis Estrada's detention was just meant to "live up to our word to have healing and reconciliation in the country, and to look after his welfare to ensure that he does not get ill treatment."

"We are not actively seeking his support now because he has openly [expressed] his backing of his friend Fernando Poe Jr.," Defensor added, referring to Ms Macapagal's closest rival in the presidential race.

More than the votes, Defensor said, the symbol that Estrada represented was healing and reconciliation.

'Simple' house

Defensor, whom Lambino described as Ms Macapagal's "political broker," said Estrada's rest house was "simple, and not even 50 square meters in lot area."

He also said the ex-President was still detained at Camp Capinpin and went to the rest house only to entertain guests or to rest after his daily walk.

Estrada himself has said that his rest house had only one room, and that renovations were done because it had been neglected for 12 years.

He said that even if he were allowed to go to the rest house from time to time, it would not erase the fact that he was in detention.

He said that after news of his virtual house arrest came out, his guards began to be strict with him and barred his relatives and court-appointed lawyer Manuel Pamaran from visiting him at the camp.

"They have tightened up security," he complained.

Rule of law

Senate Majority Leader Francis Pangilinan said the rule of law should be respected by recognizing "the sole authority of the Sandiganbayan" to decide whether Estrada deserved house arrest.

"Any attempt at circumventing the authority of the Sandiganbayan over [Estrada] should be opposed," the senator-lawyer said in an interview.

"It is incumbent upon both the prosecution and the defense lawyers to ensure that respect for the jurisdiction and authority of the courts is observed at all times," he said.

Asked to comment on Estrada's supposed move to his rest house, opposition Sen. Aquilino Pimentel Jr. said in a text message: "[It] must have been [done] by agreement with the administration."

Pimentel, who is seeking reelection under Poe's Koalisyon ng Nagkakaisang Pilipino, admitted that the current setup was tantamount to house arrest. *With a report from Michael Lim Ubac*

Talking peace makes foes the best of friends

From page A1

the negotiating table," Bello says.

That party was held shortly before the Philippine government called off the negotiations, in protest of Jalandoni's earlier congratulatory remark to communist guerrillas on the killing of Cagayan Rep. Rodolfo Aguinaldo.

Aguinaldo was a notorious military intelligence officer during the Marcos dictatorship.

But the suspension of the talks did not sour relations, says Bello.

The negotiators continued to phone one another—Sison and Jalandoni occasionally asking about the latest news in Manila, and Bello inquiring how life was in the Netherlands.

To some extent, they missed each other's company.

'Pasalubong'

Is it any wonder that Bello et al. brought *pasalubong* (gifts) from Manila when formal talks resumed last month in Oslo?

Cigarettes were among the goodies—nonmenthol for Sison and NDF consultant Fidel Agcaoili, and menthol for Coni Ledesma, Jalandoni's wife, and Ruth de Leon, wife of the late Antonio Zumel, an NDF founder and longtime member of its peace panel.

Apeng Yap, adviser to the government panel, brought vacuum-packed okra and dried fish. Sison and the others missed them, he knew.

Bello brought big plastic bags of Lapid's *chicharon*—"the meaty ones," he says of the type the NDF members particularly craved.

Capulong, legal counsel of the NDF, says there were also packs of "*sinigang* mix" so the exiles could enjoy the native broth even in Europe.

Sison likewise received 10 packs of Chocnut, a cheap but wildly popular chocolate bar in Manila.

Such gestures, coupled with warm embraces on the opening day of the talks, left Norwegians wondering if the negotiators were really at odds, says Bello.

The T-tag

But talks hit a snag on the second day, and tempers flared.

Jalandoni insisted that the "terrorist" tag on the CPP and the New People's Army should be removed.

Bello et al. held their ground, saying that the Philippine government could not make the United States and European Union strike off the label.

It seemed like the negotiations would get shelved once again unless the issue was settled.

Jalandoni was grimly serious. Agcaoili was hot. So were the "hard-liners" in the government panel, says Capulong.

Bello says only Sison kept his cool: "He was the trouble-shooter, the most sober."

But suddenly, it seemed like the friendships had vanished. A long recess followed.

It was a good thing there was plenty of *chicharon* (fried pork skin). It provided a nice distraction, never mind that it caused cholesterol levels to soar.

Soon the smiles were back.

Bonding session

However serious the situation was, Capulong, Sison, Yap and Bello found the time to lunch out.

Their mission: Find Filipino food.

"We were all sick of hotel food—all salmon and sandwiches," Capulong says.

But they ended up at the nearby Cafe Cathedral, where they made do with hamburgers, chicken sandwiches, lentil soup and coffee, Bello recalls.

But the lunch turned out to be a fine "bonding" session. Speaking in Ilocano, the four friends discussed politics, show biz, what have you.

On their way back to the hotel, the 65-year-old Sison, sandwiched between Yap and Capulong, lost his balance on the snow-covered pavement and nearly fell.

Luckily, Capulong recalls, the much younger Bello was walking ahead of them and came to the rescue.

But Bello says Yap and Capulong were similarly "afraid" of the snow, and they hung on to him until they reached the hotel.

Puzzlement

The Norwegians serving as third-party facilitators in the talks were puzzled as to how Filipinos could shout one minute and joke around the next.

"Is there really war in the Philippines?" Bello quoted one as saying.

"They can't understand why our culture is like that. Why we can lose our temper at the negotiating table and then smile afterward as if nothing had happened," Capulong says.

The negotiators issued the Oslo Joint Statement on Valentine's Day. Among the basic points was a call to the United States, European Union, Canada and Australia to support the efforts of the Philippine government and the NDF to resolve the issue of the "terrorist" tag.

The talks will be resumed late this month in Beijing. The negotiators are looking forward to puffing on cigarettes and munching on *chicharon* in the cold Chinese capital.

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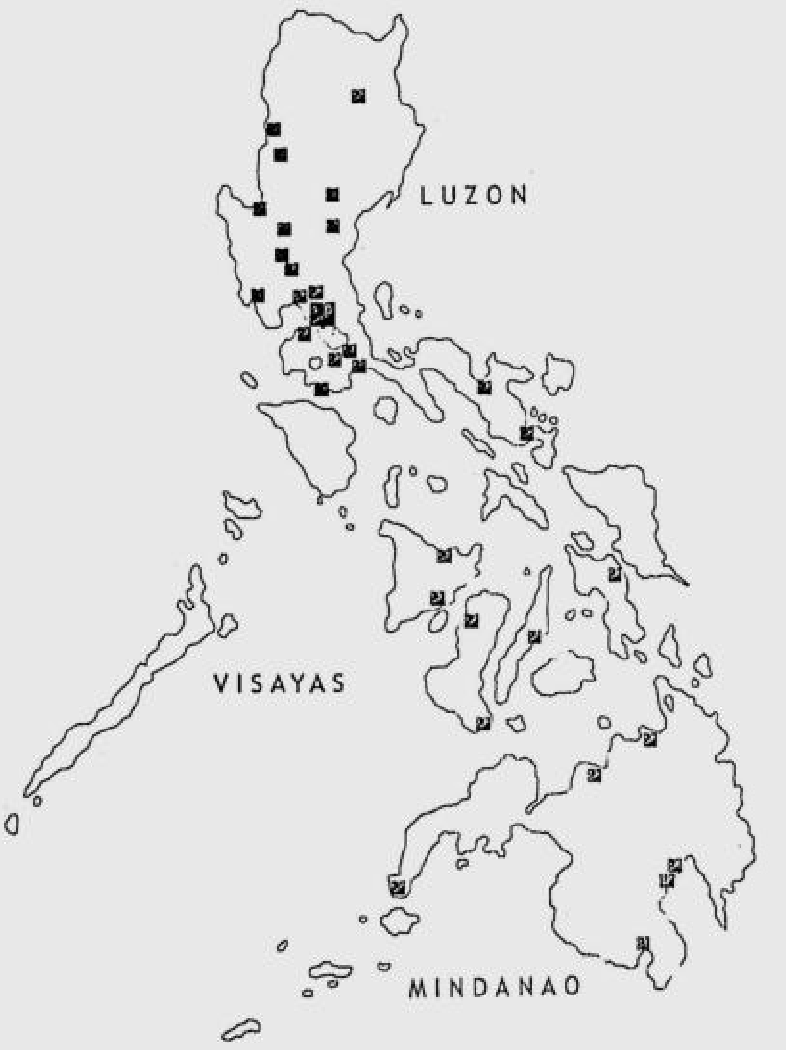

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4. Pedro Gil corner San Marcelino, Paco, Manila
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6. Bayani corner Unang Hakbang, Galas, QC
7. Real St., Zapote, Las Piñas
8. Dapitan corner Dr. Alejos, QC
9. Ortigas corner Santolan, San Juan
10. Along EDSA, Dasmariñas Village, Makati
11. Along EDSA corner Main, QC (near Camp Crame)
12. Alabang, Muntinlupa City (under flyover)
13. East Avenue, QC (near LTO)
14. Zabarte Road, Novaliches, QC
15. McArthur Highway, Marulas, Valenzuela City
16. E. Rodriguez and Araneta Avenue, QC
17. Quirino Avenue, Tambo, Parañaque City
18. J.P. Rizal corner Reposo, Makati City
19. Hulong Duhat, Malabon

NORTH LUZON
20. San Fernando, La Union - Quezon Avenue, Brgy. Sevilla *(along National Highway)*
21. Baguio City - Harrison Road *(near Burnham Park)*
22. Dagupan City - East A.B. Fernandez Avenue
23. Tarlac City - McArthur Highway, San Roque *(before Pangasinan-Tarlac junction)*
24. Angeles City - McArthur Highway, Brgy. Sto. Domingo *(near Angeles City arch)*
25. Pampanga - Brgy. San Matias, Sto. Tomas *(along McArthur Highway)*
26. Cabanatuan City, Nueva Ecija - Central Transport Terminal
27. San Jose City, Nueva Ecija - Maharlika Highway, Malasin *(across Jollibee)*
28. Olongapo City - Old Cabalan
29. Santiago City, Isabela - Callao West *(beside Callao Bridge)*
30. Malolos, Bulacan - McArthur Highway, Ginhawa *(near cockpit)*
31. Bocaue, Bulacan - KM 30 North Luzon Tollway, Southbound Lane

SOUTH LUZON
32. Batangas City - Brgy. Cuta *(near new Public Market)*
33. Lucena City - M.L. Tagarao St., Iyam *(near Public School)*
34. Naga City - Brgy. Triangulo, Concepcion Pequena, Maharlika Highway
35. Daraga/Legazpi - Rizal corner Regidor St., Daraga, Albay
36. San Pablo City - Maharlika Highway, Brgy. San Roque
37. GMA, Cavite - Governors Drive corner Congressional Avenue
38. Biñan, Laguna - Brgy. Canlalay, Old Highway *(near Halang exit)*

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39. Cebu City - Legaspi corner D. Jakosalem Sts. *(near Cebu Eastern College)*
40. Bacolod City - Banago District
41. Iloilo City - West Diversion Road, Mandurriao, Iloilo City *(near SM Iloilo)*
42. Tacloban City - Real Street
43. Roxas City - Roxas Avenue *(near Immaculate Conception Church)*
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48. Zamboanga City - corner Veterans and Gov. Alvarez Avenues *(near Metrobank)*
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50. Davao City - KM 10, Sasa *(Sasa Pier entrance)*

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METRO

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SUERTRES 2 2 8

SIX DIGIT (In exact order)

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6/42 Luzon

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Vis-Min

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90% of MM schools opt not to raise tuition

By Luige del Puerto

WHILE public utility drivers and operators are bent on hiking fares, and hog dealers are complaining of high farm-gate prices, parents at least could find comfort in the report that a majority of private schools in the metropolis have decided not to increase tuition this year.

"I would say more than 90 percent of private schools offering basic education would not ask for a tuition increase," said Eleazar Kasilag, president of the Federation of Association of Private Schools Administrators (FAPSA). "It would be a marketing suicide for any private school to increase tuition at this time."

FAPSA claims to have 1,064 members offering preschool, elementary and secondary education.

The moratorium on tuition increase is meant to offset the exodus of students to public schools, Kasilag said.

The school administrator said that not only students are moving to public schools, but teachers as well.

The situation has even prompted a few schools to offer free books, snacks and even uniforms during summer classes, just to keep their students, and probably entice new ones.

Three weeks ago, a school held a motorcade announcing it would not be increasing its tuition fee, according to Kasilag.

He said his school, St. Nicholas School in Marikina, had increased its tuition by 12 percent last year and suffered as a result.

The school's enrollment dipped by six percent—a huge drop for a school with a population of only around 500 students.

Kasilag explained that if a school found it necessary to raise its tuition, then the proposed fee must not exceed five percent.

"And only about seven percent of FAPSA's member-schools would opt for one," he said.

Late last month, the Commission on Higher Education took a daring step to stop runaway fee increases in colleges.

The government regulatory body said it would put a cap to allowable increases in tuition and other fees.

Officials want to peg increases according to the inflation rate. They also want school owners to get the students' approval beforehand.

Price of pork reaches ₱150 per kilogram

By Luige del Puerto and Leila Salaverria

A STRIKE by hog dealers failed to totally remove pork from markets in the metropolis but forced the already steep price of the meat from P140 to P150 per kilo.

A market survey by the INQUIRER showed a price range of P130 to P150 per kilo in all areas in Metro Manila.

In Manila, less than half of the meat stalls at the Quinta Market in Quiapo had pork stocks.

Haggled to P140

A kilo of the meat was being sold for P150 but many managed to haggle it down to P140.

A vendor blamed the scarcity in supply brought about by the "pig holiday" declared by a big group of hog dealers for the rise in prices.

Dennis Ayala, a collector with the Pasig City Public Martket Authority, said the average price per kilo of pork in the city was P140.

Meat inspector Liza de la Cruz related a similar situation in Marikina City.

Fish instead

Many consumers are shifting to fish and vegetables due to the high prices of pork.

At the Quinta Market, a kilo of *galunggong* was selling at P80, while *bangus* (milk fish) was being sold by bunches of three for P50.

Beef, in the meantime, was priced at P140 to P160 a kilo for the bony parts and P180 to P200 per kilo for prime cuts.

P200 per kilo

Similar prices were monitored at the Guadalupe Market in Makati and Caloocan City.

Hog dealers are objecting to high farm gate prices of hogs that currently stand from P90 to P93 per kilo.

Prices of livestock shot up after commercial and backyard hog raisers cutback on production.

THIS pork barbecue vendor takes pride in retaining the price of his goods at P7 per stick. But look again, there may be less meat for the palate in each serving. JOAN BONDOC

It's summer, but keep your shirts on

IT IS summertime and it is hot. The air is humid. You are sweating profusely. You are tempted to take off your shirt.

But if you are in Navotas, taking off your shirt may only get you into hot water.

In this small town, an ordinance prohibiting half-naked teenagers and men in public places is still in place.

Municipal Ordinance No. 2002-19 bans persons aged 15 and up from roaming around streets and markets half-naked.

Police chief Billy Beltran told the INQUIRER on Thursday that the ordinance is still being strictly implemented, especially now that summer has set in.

And should the scorching summer heat prove too hot to handle, men could still take off their shirts—but only if they are inside their houses, Mayor Toby Tiangco said.

Violators will face any of these sanctions: pay P300 fine, stay in jail for a day or do eight hours of community service.

Edson Tandoc Jr.

METROBRIEFS

From Sir to 'Kuya'

EXPECT the man pounding the beat to answer to "Kuya," and not "Sir." Hoping to win back the people's trust and confidence, the National Capital Region Police Office has launched a new program to turn lawmen into "friendly neighborhood *kuya* (older brothers)." The NCRPO's new battle cry? KUYA Ko 'To: Your Friendly Neighborhood Kuya, Pulis ng Metro Manila. Kuya, in this case, is the acronym for Kusang Umaaksyon, walang Yabang at laging Alerto. NCRPO Director Ricardo De Leon on Friday said that the program aims to weed out the extortionists in the police ranks. He said if policemen were friendly and approachable, people would be more willing to ask for assistance or volunteer information. "An older brother acts as a model for his siblings," according to an NCRPO statement. "He keeps an eye on his younger siblings. He does not tolerate wrongdoings." *Edson Tandoc Jr.*

Bystanders to the rescue

THE POLICE yesterday praised Marikina City bystanders for helping them catch a suspected thief. "Bystanders have been a big help in arresting petty thieves," said Senior Supt. Felipe Rojas, city police chief. "The police could not be there all the time, but in our absence, these bystanders almost always help out." At around 10 p.m. on Friday, bystanders caught Charlie Ayaay, 31, of Concepcion Uno, after he snatched the handbag of jeepney passenger Gloria Yabut, 45. When bystanders heard Yabut's cry for help, they chased the suspect, pinned him down and turned him over to responding policemen. *Luige del Puerto*

It was the midwife's fault

EVELYN Tarobal, a licensed midwife with over 10 years experience, landed in jail after the mother and the newborn child she was attending to died on Friday night. Tarobal, 33, of Panganiban Street, Concepcion Uno, is facing charges of negligence resulting in homicide, said Insp. Antonio Cruz. At around 7 p.m. Friday, Tarobal was called in to help Geraldine Awing, 20, deliver her child. Three hours later, Geraldine gave birth to a still-born girl. As they tried to revive the baby before rushing her to a hospital, Geraldine was bleeding profusely. By the time, relatives called in emergency workers, it was too late. Geraldine was pronounced dead at the Amang Rodriguez Medical Center.

Luige del Puerto

Transport group also wants fuel discounts for tricycles

By Edson Tandoc Jr.

WHAT about us?

That was the question raised by a transport group that counts tricycle drivers as members after the government pushed for a P1 diesel fuel discount for passenger jeepneys.

An official of the National Transport Workers Union (NTWU), representing about 120,000 members mostly in the Visayas and Mindanao, said they too deserved a discount on the gasoline that they use.

More tricycles

Virgilio Valmona, NTWU vice president for Mindanao, pointed out that there were more tricycle drivers than jeepney drivers in the country.

Motorcabs, small vans commonly used as public transport in provinces in Mindanao, also use gasoline.

Valmona appealed to the government to also look into the concerns of drivers in the provinces, where the drivers' conditions were worse.

Discounted fuel

Yesterday, jeepney drivers nationwide began availing of diesel fuel that was cheaper by P1 per liter, according to Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board Chair Ma. Elena Bautista.

The discounted fuel are sold at selected gasoline stations run by the Big 3 oil firms.

Initially, Bautista said, Petron promised discounted diesel at 50 of its stations nationwide. Shell had also committed 50 stations. Caltex, on the other hand, said it would sell specially priced fuel at 10 of its stations.

The fuel discount granted to passenger jeepneys preempted a nationwide jeepney strike set for tomorrow.

Leaders of various jeepney organizations agreed to abort tomorrow's mass action even after they failed to get the P1.50 fare hike they had been demanding on top of the reduced fuel prices.

Fare hike

However, the government promised to study the drivers' fare hire petition and come up with a decision by March 16.

Last Monday, a limited stoppage paralyzed 80 percent of jeepney routes in Metro Manila, transport leaders claimed.

Militants to mark Women's Day

THERE may be no transport strike tomorrow, but militant women are set to take to the streets to mark International Women's Day.

Gabriela will mobilize about 10,000 women who will gather in Plaza Miranda, Manila at 10 a.m. Monday and will march to Mendiola later in the day.

Gabriela members said that they wish to declare March 8 as "Gloria Holiday."

In a press conference on Friday, officials of the group said that they would not support President Macapagal-Arroyo, the only woman running for president.

Lana Linaban, Gabriela deputy secretary-general, said Ms Macapagal did not have any right to be president because of her "lies and sins to Filipino women."

Malou Turalde-Jarabe also said that poverty was the worst form of abuse.

The group has invited "candidates close to Gabriela" to tomorrow's rally. The group will also endorse some candidates beginning tomorrow.

At 4 p.m., it will be Sanlakas' turn to gather about 3,000 people to march from Morayta to Mendiola. The group will protest the increasing prices of basic commodities and support the transport sector's call for a rollback in oil prices.

The other day, the group sponsored a climbing event for twenty mothers in Quezon City.

Manjette Lopez, Sanlakas secretary-general, told the INQUIRER that the event symbolized the "hard climb" women had gone through to fight for their rights.

Sanlakas is pushing for the passage of the divorce bill and the reproductive health care bill, which would give women "control over their own bodies."

Lopez said that while there are good laws in the country promoting and protecting women's rights, these laws are not being implemented strictly.

Yesterday, Gabriela announced that the Anti-Violence Against Women and Children bill would be signed into law tomorrow, in time with the International Women's Day.

In a statement, party list representative Liza Maza said that the bill would "criminalize violence against women and children committed by present and former husbands, live-in partners, boyfriends and girlfriends." *Edson Tandoc Jr.*

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METRO
Editor Abelardo S. Ulanday

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3 3 6 3 7 6

6/42 Luzon
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Vis-Min
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90% of MM schools opt not to raise tuition

By Luige del Puerto

WHILE public utility drivers and operators are bent on hiking fares, and hog dealers are complaining of high farm-gate prices, parents at least could find comfort in the report that a majority of private schools in the metropolis have decided not to increase tuition this year.

"I would say more than 90 percent of private schools offering basic education would not ask for a tuition increase," said Eleazar Kasilag, president of the Federation of Association of Private Schools Administrators (FAPSA). "It would be a marketing suicide for any private school to increase tuition at this time."

FAPSA claims to have 1,064 members offering preschool, elementary and secondary education.

The moratorium on tuition increase is meant to offset the exodus of students to public schools, Kasilag said.

The school administrator said that not only students are moving to public schools, but teachers as well.

The situation has even prompted a few schools to offer free books, snacks and even uniforms during summer classes, just to keep their students, and probably entice new ones.

Three weeks ago, a school held a motorcade announcing it would not be increasing its tuition fee, according to Kasilag.

He said his school, St. Nicholas School in Marikina, had increased its tuition by 12 percent last year and suffered as a result.

The school's enrollment dipped by six percent—a huge drop for a school with a population of only around 500 students.

Kasilag explained that if a school found it necessary to raise its tuition, then the proposed fee must not exceed five percent.

"And only about seven percent of FAPSA's member-schools would opt for one," he said.

Late last month, the Commission on Higher Education took a daring step to stop runaway fee increases in colleges.

The government regulatory body said it would put a cap to allowable increases in tuition and other fees.

Officials want to peg increases according to the inflation rate. They also want school owners to get the students' approval beforehand.

Price of pork reaches ₱150 per kilogram

By Luige del Puerto
and Leila Salaverria

A STRIKE by hog dealers failed to totally remove pork from markets in the metropolis but forced the already steep price of the meat from P140 to P150 per kilo.

A market survey by the INQUIRER showed a price range of P130 to P150 per kilo in all areas in Metro Manila.

In Manila, less than half of the meat stalls at the Quinta Market in Quiapo had pork stocks.

Haggled to P140

A kilo of the meat was being sold for P150 but many managed to haggle it down to P140.

A vendor blamed the scarcity in supply brought about by the "pig holiday" declared by a big group of hog dealers for the rise in prices.

Dennis Ayala, a collector with the Pasig City Public Martket Authority, said the average price per kilo of pork in the city was P140.

Meat inspector Liza de la Cruz related a similar situation in Marikina City.

Fish instead

Many consumers are shifting to fish and vegetables due to the high prices of pork.

At the Quinta Market, a kilo of *galunggong* was selling at P80, while *bangus* (milk fish) was being sold by bunches of three for P50.

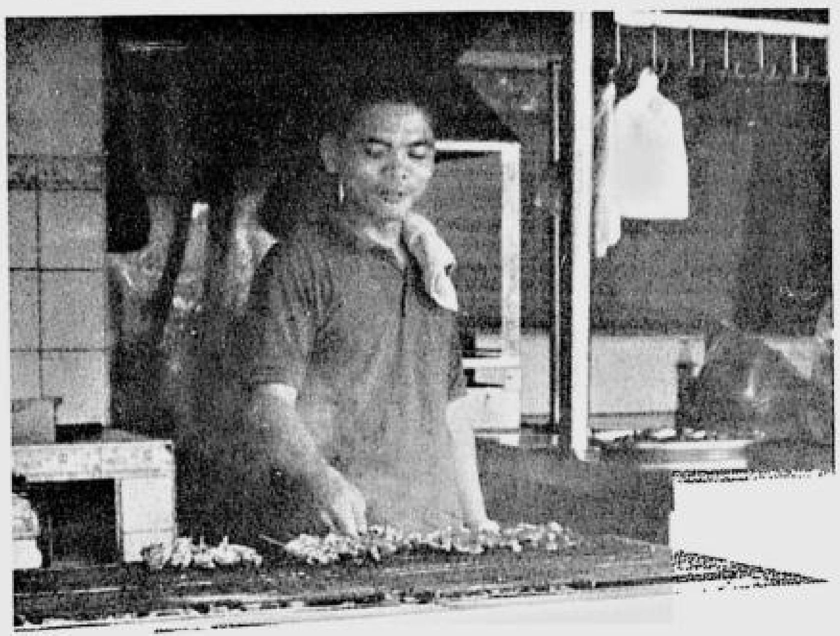
Beef, in the meantime, was priced at P140 to P160 a kilo for the bony parts and P180 to P200 per kilo for prime cuts.

P200 per kilo

Similar prices were monitored at the Guadalupe Market in Makati and Caloocan City.

Hog dealers are objecting to high farm gate prices of hogs that currently stand from P90 to P93 per kilo.

Prices of livestock shot up after commercial and backyard hog raisers cutback on production.



THIS pork barbecue vendor takes pride in retaining the price of his goods at P7 per stick. But look again, there may be less meat for the palate in each serving. JOAN BUNDOC

It's summer, but keep your shirts on

IT IS summertime and it is hot. The air is humid. You are sweating profusely. You are tempted to take off your shirt.

But if you are in Navotas, taking off your shirt may only get you into hot water.

In this small town, an ordinance prohibiting half-naked teenagers and men in public places is still in place.

Municipal Ordinance No. 2002-19 bans persons aged 15 and up from roaming around streets and markets half-naked.

Police chief Billy Beltran told the INQUIRER on Thursday that the ordinance is still being strictly implemented, especially now that summer has set in.

And should the scorching summer heat prove too hot to handle, men could still take off their shirts—but only if they are inside their houses, Mayor Toby Tiangco said.

Violators will face any of these sanctions: pay P300 fine, stay in jail for a day or do eight hours of community service.

Edson Tandoc Jr.

METROBRIEFS

From Sir to 'Kuya'

EXPECT the man pounding the beat to answer to "Kuya," and not "Sir." Hoping to win back the people's trust and confidence, the National Capital Region Police Office has launched a new program to turn lawmen into "friendly neighborhood *kuya* (older brothers)." The NCRPO's new battle cry? KUYA Ko 'To: Your Friendly Neighborhood Kuya, Pulis ng Metro Manila. Kuya, in this case, is the acronym for Kusang Umaaksyon, walang Yabang at laging Alerto. NCRPO Director Ricardo De Leon on Friday said that the program aims to weed out the extortionists in the police ranks. He said if policemen were friendly and approachable, people would be more willing to ask for assistance or volunteer information. "An older brother acts as a model for his siblings," according to an NCRPO statement. "He keeps an eye on his younger siblings. He does not tolerate wrongdoings." *Edson Tandoc Jr.*

Bystanders to the rescue

THE POLICE yesterday praised Marikina City bystanders for helping them catch a suspected thief. "Bystanders have been a big help in arresting petty thieves," said Senior Supt. Felipe Rojas, city police chief. "The police could not be there all the time, but in our absence, these bystanders almost always help out." At around 10 p.m. on Friday, bystanders caught Charlie Ayaay, 31, of Concepcion Uno, after he snatched the handbag of jeepney passenger Gloria Yabut, 45. When bystanders heard Yabut's cry for help, they chased the suspect, pinned him down and turned him over to responding policemen. *Luige del Puerto*

It was the midwife's fault

EVELYN Tarobal, a licensed midwife with over 10 years experience, landed in jail after the mother and the newborn child she was attending to died on Friday night. Tarobal, 33, of Panganiban Street, Concepcion Uno, is facing charges of negligence resulting in homicide, said Insp. Antonio Cruz. At around 7 p.m. Friday, Tarobal was called in to help Geraldine Awing, 20, deliver her child. Three hours later, Geraldine gave birth to a still-born girl. As they tried to revive the baby before rushing her to a hospital, Geraldine was bleeding profusely. By the time, relatives called in emergency workers, it was too late. Geraldine was pronounced dead at the Amang Rodriguez Medical Center. *Luige del Puerto*

Transport group also wants fuel discounts for tricycles

By Edson Tandoc Jr.

WHAT about us?

That was the question raised by a transport group that counts tricycle drivers as members after the government pushed for a P1 diesel fuel discount for passenger jeepneys.

An official of the National Transport Workers Union (NTWU), representing about 120,000 members mostly in the Visayas and Mindanao, said they too deserved a discount on the gasoline that they use.

More tricycles

Virgilio Valmona, NTWU vice president for Mindanao, pointed out that there were more tricycle drivers than jeepney drivers in the country.

Motorcabs, small vans commonly used as public transport in provinces in Mindanao, also use gasoline.

Valmona appealed to the government to also look into the concerns of drivers in the provinces, where the drivers' conditions were worse.

Discounted fuel

Yesterday, jeepney drivers nationwide began availing of diesel fuel that was cheaper by P1 per liter, according to Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board Chair Ma. Elena Bautista.

The discounted fuel are sold at selected gasoline stations run by the Big 3 oil firms.

Initially, Bautista said, Petron promised discounted diesel at 50 of its stations nationwide. Shell had also committed 50 stations. Caltex, on the other hand, said it would sell specially priced fuel at 10 of its stations.

The fuel discount granted to passenger jeepneys preempted a nationwide jeepney strike set for tomorrow.

Leaders of various jeepney organizations agreed to abort tomorrow's mass action even after they failed to get the P1.50 fare hike they had been demanding on top of the reduced fuel prices.

Fare hike

However, the government promised to study the drivers' fare hire petition and come up with a decision by March 16.

Last Monday, a limited stoppage paralyzed 80 percent of jeepney routes in Metro Manila, transport leaders claimed.

Militants to mark Women's Day

THERE may be no transport strike tomorrow, but militant women are set to take to the streets to mark International Women's Day.

Gabriela will mobilize about 10,000 women who will gather in Plaza Miranda, Manila at 10 a.m. Monday and will march to Mendiola later in the day.

Gabriela members said that they wish to declare March 8 as "Gloria Holiday."

In a press conference on Friday, officials of the group said that they would not support President Macapagal-Arroyo, the only woman running for president.

Lana Linaban, Gabriela deputy secretary-general, said Ms Macapagal did not have any right to be president because of her "lies and sins to Filipino women."

Malou Turalde-Jarabe also said that poverty was the worst form of abuse.

The group has invited "candidates close to Gabriela" to tomorrow's rally. The group will also endorse some candidates beginning tomorrow.

At 4 p.m., it will be Sanlakas' turn to gather about 3,000 people to march from Morayta to Mendiola. The group will protest the increasing prices of basic commodities and support the transport sector's call for a rollback in oil prices.

The other day, the group sponsored a climbing event for twenty mothers in Quezon City.

Manjette Lopez, Sanlakas secretary-general, told the INQUIRER that the event symbolized the "hard climb" women had gone through to fight for their rights.

Sanlakas is pushing for the passage of the divorce bill and the reproductive health care bill, which would give women "control over their own bodies."

Lopez said that while there are good laws in the country promoting and protecting women's rights, these laws are not being implemented strictly.

Yesterday, Gabriela announced that the Anti-Violence Against Women and Children bill would be signed into law tomorrow, in time with the International Women's Day.

In a statement, party list representative Liza Maza said that the bill would "criminalize violence against women and children committed by present and former husbands, live-in partners, boyfriends and girlfriends."

Edson Tandoc Jr.

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MOTOR SPORTS: F1 Foster's Australian Grand Prix; 10 a.m. (r-7:30 p.m.); Star Sports—Michael Schumacher starts his bid for an unprecedented 7th driver's title in the Land Down Under.

BASKETBALL: NBA-Spurs vs Suns; 10 a.m. (r-8 p.m.); Solar Sports—Playing minus reigning MVP Tim Duncan, San Antonio tries to eclipse Phoenix at the America West Arena.

Schedules subject to change without prior notice.

Del Monte sets PAL Interclub history

By Ernesto A. Gonzales

CAGAYAN DE ORO—No amount of pressure could derail Del Monte's date with history.

Their seven-point lead wiped out halfway through yesterday's final round, the determined Del Monte bets responded with clutch shotmaking on the finishing holes to nip Manila Southwoods by four and become the first Mindanao team to win the Philippine Airlines Interclub golf championship.

Louie Dacudao and Paul Miñoza decided one of the tournament's tightest finishes by outplaying their respective Southwoods rivals down the stretch as Del Monte scraped through with a 133 final round and a 571 total.

Both finished with 35 points with the comebacking Dacudao gaining four points on Artemio Murakami with three birdies in the last five holes and Miñoza taking three on Jun Jun Plana in the same stretch.

The 29-year-old Dacudao, a member of two past Luisita champion teams who temporarily quit the sport due to a back injury, put a dramatic, memorable touch to the breakthrough win by chipping in for birdie from the greenside rough on the final hole.

Murakami, who sparked the blazing front-nine rally that actually boosted Southwoods in front by two, went on to shoot a two-under 70 for 38 points that helped the Carmona, Cavite squad score 136 points for the day and a 567 total.

It's dynastic rule abruptly ended, Canlubang settled for third with 558 with team captain Luigi Yulo dismissing the debacle by saying "you can't win everything."

As a consolation for a team that miserably missed a record fifth straight title and 13th overall crown, Dave Hernandez captured the individual title by a point over Canlubang teammate and Seniors top scorer Tommy Manotoc, 72-71.

"We're very proud of what we've done. This is going to be a big boost for Mindanao golf," said Del Monte playing team captain Ramon "Yoyong" Velez, who also counted on the final day with 30 points behind the 33 of Tristan Tabanas.

"We knew we had the talent and it was just a question of our determination and persistence. We worked hard for it and it paid off," added Velez, a 42-year-old, 2-handicapper now working as the Del Monte legal counsel after a brief stint with the famous Pecabar law firm.

While team captain Jeric Hechanova said placing second was tantamount to a victory since his boys were not expected to contend, he couldn't hide his disappointment at Southwoods' sputtering finish after coming close to winning on his 45th birth anniversary.

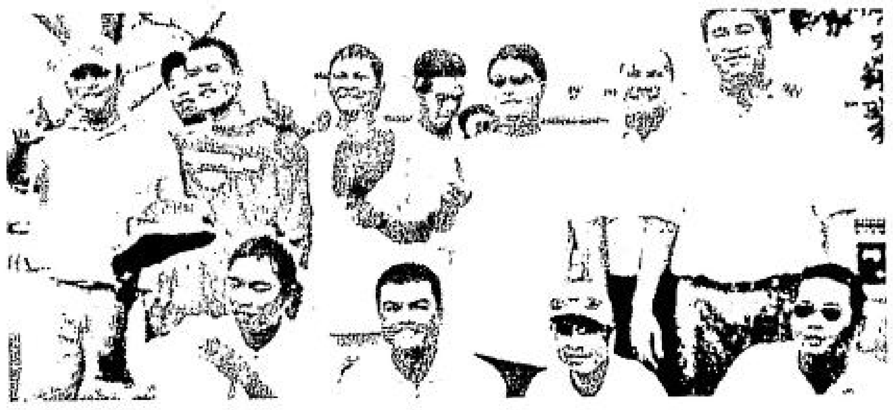
"It would have been a perfect birthday gift for me. But we didn't get the breaks," said Hechanova, who routed his Del Monte opponent, Jett Plete, with 32 points that became the team's fourth best behind the 33 of Plana and Gene Bondoc.

Until yesterday, Del Monte is known in local golf mainly as home of six-time Philippine Open champion Celestino Tugot and the country's top local parbuster Frankie Miñoza.

Velez said Frankie did his share along with his trainer Roger Retuerto in the four-year development program that eventually resulted in Del Monte's historic win that was triggered by a record 156 score in the first round and an unprecedented 43 points by Romeo Jaraulla.

Pueblo de Oro made it a sweep for this year's

DEL MONTE/ A26



MEMBERS of the Del Monte squad are shown after their stunning victory. They are (standing from left) coach Raul Miñoza, Lino Retuerto, Ben Miñoza, Arsenio Mondilla, Tristan Tabanas and team captain Yoyong Velez. In the front row are (from right) Louie Dacudao, Joel Opaco, Paul Miñoza and Romeo Jaraula. ROGER CARPIO

SEA Games preparations on track-POC

By Marc Anthony Reyes

THE PHILIPPINE Olympic Committee yesterday tried to allay fears about the delay in the 2005 Southeast Asian Games preparations because "it's on track."

POC president Celso Dayrit said: "There is no need for prospective hosts to worry because we have already come up with several plans as part of the preparations."

Instead, Dayrit blamed the Philippine Sports Commission for cutting the number of the athletes despite the fact that the agency is assigned to train and prepare the athletes for the country's third SEAG hosting. .

Dayrit also said the SEAG Federation council has "overwhelmingly approved" of the presentation of the Philsoc (SEAG organizing committee) during its two-day meeting held here recently.

Delegates from Thailand and Malaysia said they are confident the country can pull off the SEAG hosting despite the short period of preparation.

"Now, with only one year left, every member-country is worried about that (preparations)," said Charouk Arirachakaran, secretary general of the Thailand Olympic Committee. "But you have a lot of experience hosting the SEA Games and we are sure you can do it."

Datuk Jegathesan of the Malaysian Olympic Committee said the Philippines needs to have a lot of help from the government because of the expenses involved.

Both Thailand and Malaysia had two full years to prepare for the 1995 and 2001 editions.

The alarm was sounded by the PSC and Manila, which is the main hub of the Games. They complained about the delay of the announcement of venues, among other plans.

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Phone Pals foil Express, stay on top

GAMES TODAY *(Araneta Coliseum)*
4:00 p.m.—Purefoods vs Alaska
6:15 p.m.—Sta. Lucia vs Coca-Cola

By June Navarro

BETWEEN brothers Ranidel and Yancy De Ocampo, Ranidel came out more productive last night.

Talk 'N Text, however, spoiled Ranidel's awesome rookie performance as the Phone Pals routed the FedEx Express, 116-104, in the Gran Matador PBA Fiesta Conference at the Philsports Arena.

The younger De Ocampo, picked fourth overall by the Express in the draft, had a career-high 19 points, including five three-pointers to handily beat his brother in the statistical department. Yancy finished with 10 points and eight rebounds.

"I'm happy for him (Ranidel) but unfortunately, our team is stronger than his team. I'm also excited playing against him in the professional ranks but it could be sweeter if we could play in the same team," said the 23-year-old Yancy.

Yancy was traded by the Express to the Phone Pals before the season, preventing what could have been the second pair of siblings playing on the same team since Chito and Joey Loyzaga of Ginebra in the early '90s.

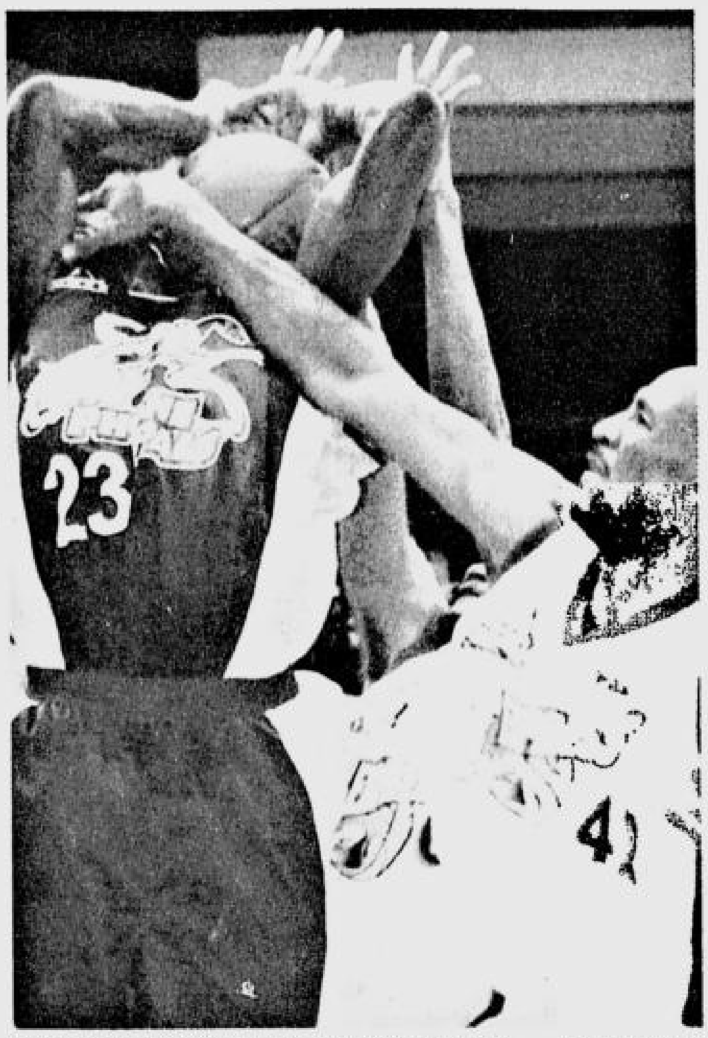
The Express absorbed their second straight setback while the Phone Pals fortified their hold of the lead at 3-0.

Randy Holcomb and Asi Taulava again typified the Phone Pals' firepower in the paint, combining for 53 points and 29 rebounds, respectively, that took them to a similar start since the 2002 Commissioner's Cup.

Alvin Jefferson had 20 points and 10 rebounds for the Express.

In the second game, San Miguel Beer thrashed Barangay Ginebra, 95-82, on the night Danny Seigle got reactivated from the injury list.

The Beermen improved to 2-0 while the Gin Kings absorbed their first defeat in three games.



JEFFERSON (right) fouls Holcomb inside the paint. AUGUST DELA CRUZ

Scores:

TALK 'N TEXT 116—Holcomb 27, Taulava 26, Alapag 20, Ravena 15, De Ocampo 10, Miller 7, Belano 5, Telan 4, Villa 2, Salangsang 0, Fran 0.

FEDEX 104—Jefferson 20, De Ocampo 19, Yap 16, Pingris 12, Ferriols 11, Rodriguez 8, Billones 5, Meneses 5, Ritualo 2, Gonzales 2, Arboleda 2, Bernardo 0.

Quarters: 25-17, 57-53, 87-80, 116-104.

Pacquiao snubs meeting with Ring ed

By Marc Anthony Reyes

BOXING champ Manny Pacquiao didn't show up for his scheduled meeting yesterday with the editor of the esteemed Ring Magazine which will present him its version of the featherweight championship belt.

But Nigel Collins, the 58-year-old big boss of what is considered the "Bible of Boxing," didn't mind because the official awarding was reset at a later date and at a different venue anyway.

Pacquiao's manager Rod Nazario said he thought Pacquiao was just joking when he told him that he can't make it at the spanking new Wild Card Gym in Sucat, Parañaque.

"I thought he was joking because he told me he will fix the passports of his kids. I said it was Saturday," Nazario told the INQUIRER.

It turned out that the 25-year-old Pacquiao really won't show up to meet Collins who arrived here Friday night from Philadelphia. He was only the second Ring Magazine editor to have paid a visit here, next to Nat Fleischer back in the '50s.

Pacquiao was in Davao City where he owns a townhouse aside from his properties in Gen. Santos City.

But mediamen who trooped to the gym, which has a spacious suite just for the champ, tried to call him up on his cellular phone. It was reported that while Pacquiao was trying to make excuses, billiards breaks could be heard.

But Collins only had good words for Pacquiao though he dropped some allusion to the champ's flashy lifestyle.

"Manny should not get back in shape," Collins said. "He should stay in shape, because great boxers stay in shape."

Collins said he is willing to accommodate whatever plans for the official belt awarding. It was tentatively set for Tuesday in Malacañang.

"Whenever the President (Macapagal-Arroyo) finds the time, we will make time," said Collins.

Nazario said Pacquiao will "break-in" the gym which opened only last month. He will stay there, according to the manager, till the end of the month.

He said Pacquiao has not visited a gym since his sensational triumph over featherweight icon Marco Antonio Barrera.

After that, Nazario said Team Pacquiao will fly to the United States to start training for his fight possibly against Mexican IBF and WBA titlist Juan Manuel Marquez.

He added that the fight was moved from May 22 to May 8 tentatively in San Francisco. "It's a lot better because there are many Filipinos there and the climate is warmer," said Nazario.

Collins also bared that he's voting for the election of Filipino boxing legend Ceferino Garcia to the Hall of Fame. *With a report from Rey Danseco*

Del Monte sets PAL Interclub history

From page A25

host clubs by ruling the Founders division with 509 points. Forest Hills salvaged second with 486, nipping Riviera by a point.

This year's major sponsors are ABS-CBN Global, Airbus Industries, CNN International, GE Aircraft Engines, Golden Nugget Hotel Las Vegas, Johnnie Walker, Manila Broadcasting Corporation, Radio Mindanao Network, RJ 100, Royal Caribbean International and UMBN.

The corporate supporters are 101.5 Crossover, Joey 92.3, PLDT and 96.3 WRock while Asia Brewery, Boeing, Boysen Pacific Paint, Century Park Hotel, INQ7.net, Jam 88.3, Tanduay Rhum and www.philstar.com are the other backers.

The final standings:

CHAMPIONSHIP– Del Monte 571 (156-141-141-133), Manila Southwoods 567 (150-140-141-136), Canlubang 558 (140-140-136-142), Davao 383 (84-100-95-104), SFO Crystal Springs 377 (106-97-87-87), Lanang 332 (71-80-100-81), San Jose 332 (78-98-71-85), Fil-Am Florida 267 (60-70-55-82), Fil-Oz Melbourne 257(64-59-56-78)

FOUNDERS – Pueblo de Oro 509 (124-128-124-133), Forest Hills 486 (122-124-120-120), Riviera 485 (116-122-122-125), Wack Wack 485 (122-130-114-119), Cebu 478 (128-118-109-123), Manila Golf 453 (113-114-108-118), Sherwood Hills 441 (108-122-103-108), Alabang 439 (108-121-101-109), Palos Verdes 409 (102-115-83-109).

SPORTSWRITERS—Negros 446 (109-120-108-109), Iligan 438 (101-113-112-112), John Hay 433 (111-102-122-98), Valley 432 (103-100-111-118), Team LA 430 (101-117-107-105), Orchard 423 (107-97-104-115), Sta. Elena 419 (104-96-111-108), Iloilo 402 (100-94-112-96), Camp Evangelista 401 (97-89-98-117), Leyte 401 (100-94-112-96).

FRIENDSHIP—Phil. Navy 389 (86-88-109-106), Pittsburg 382 (83-80-113-106), Lumbia 380 (85-95-87-113), Alta Vista 372 (92-92-99-89), Zamboanga 372 (96-91-84-101), Mactan Coral 367 (106-81-89-91), Capitol Hills 363 (88-89-83-103), San Juanico 361 (81-84-96-100), Baguio 349 (83-95-90-81), Maharlika 341 (94-76-84-89), Victorias 337 (86-98-64-89).

Lure of PAL Interclub

SPECTATOR

Al S. Mendoza

CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY—The majority of the 1,328 players who took part in the 57th PAL Interclub Golf Championship have left this bustling, yet quiet city, carrying memories that are again—at least to the returnees—distinct from their previous stints in the fabled affair.

No, they lug home memories not the kind that would remind them of missed putts or wayward tee shots, not of a broken heart due to a won match that was lost in a putt that lipped out. In a fun tournament such as the PAL Interclub, friendship comes first over competition.

OK, in the championship division, competition could be as fierce as in the raging GMA-FPJ battle for the presidency on May 10.

That's to be understood. The championship teams always showcase the cream of the crop from amateur golf.

Take Canlubang's case.

Through the years, Canlubang has been parading a lineup peopled by national players. Backing them up almost on a yearly basis are seasoned players who were themselves former national players, if not former national champions. It is no wonder then that since its Cinderella victory in 1977, Canlubang has emerged the winningest team the last 27 years or so of the PAL Interclub. To date, it owns 12 overall titles.

(There was no 57th PAL Interclub champion yet when I wrote this piece as this was done rush-rush to beat my deadline. After the third round on Friday, Canlubang was trailing leader Del Monte by a mile and had conceded defeat. Southwoods, the 1999 champion, was just 7 points behind.)

But while teams keen on winning the overall title like Canlubang abound in the PAL Interclub, it cannot be denied that teams from the lower-ranked divisions also go all out in their own quest for fame and glory. To them, the glory lies not in being bunched with the hot shots but in how they perform even when they are not classified as big shots. To them, just to be in the PAL Interclub—whether they are in the Championship Division, Founders, Friendship or Sportswriters—is more than a badge of honor already.

Golf is so unique a game that even the weakest of warriors are as passionate in scoring victories as the favorites. There is no truer test of man's competitive spirit than in this sport, which treats a white-collar job employee and a king coequal when they are out there playing. In the golf course, you don't distinguish an employee from a king: They are merely both golfers.

And so it was that another chapter of the PAL Interclub is over. Perhaps, the majority of the 1,328 players who attended this year will be back again next year. Who knows? But for sure, many will come back. I will not be surprised if the roster next year will breach this year's entry list-another record.

The PAL Interclub, born in 1948, has reached that plateau that for one not being part of it after having played in it even just for once might trigger withdrawal symptoms on the no-shows next year. As the saying goes, "Why stop when it feels good?"

God willing, see you all in Bacolod next year.

***

I bumped into Datu Kahugpongan (Willy S. Mangumbahan) and Datu Sumusunod (Jimmy S. Manaohog) of Cabanglasan, Bukidnon, on Friday during my coverage here of the 57th PAL Interclub. The brothers struck me as visionaries. The two Datus, friends of my childhood chum and now Cagayan-based Tom R. Garcia, want 15,000 families from Luzon and the Visayas to settle in their ancestral land measuring 51,000 hectares located at Brgy. Umayam.

"We will shoulder their travel expenses and give them houses and lands to till when they get to our place," said the two Datus, with whom I had the happy occasion to drink wine Friday evening. Happily, I got a crash course from them on tribalism in Mindanao. "We will hold seminars for them before they start their new life with us."

Do I not keep telling you here that travel broadens our horizons?

They said a foreign funding is backing up their plan to recruit settlers to Umayam, which is situated on the boundaries of Davao del Norte, Agusan del Sur and Bukidnon. The KNNP (Katutubong Nagkakaisang Nagtutulungan sa Pilipinas) of which they are among the top officials is actively involved in the project.

"We've built more than 500 houses already," said the two Datus. "We want our countrymen to know that we are in this primarily to pitch in some help in the name of progress for our country."

They said they are doing it to help the nation fight joblessness and homelessness. Call 09197802203 for more details.

The two Datus said I could qualify as a Datu in their tribe.

"You have the makings of a Datu," they said. "We will be honored if you will honor us one day to become a Datu in Umayam," they said. "The ceremonies will only take three hours."

I was speechless. You think I should accept the offer when finally offered again?

Tempting, huh?

For starters, I already have this name for myself. How about Datu Kaaro?

Tom R. Garcia would surely love that.

***

FASTBREAK. Thanks to PAL supervisor Marcos Valerio, who facilitated my hassle-free flight on March 1 to Cagayan de Oro City. His kindness saved my friends and me from missing our 5 a.m. flight that day. Domeng Duerme, if not Henry So Uy, must be proud of him.

SPORTSWATCH

Devers halfway to historic double

BUDAPEST, Hungary— Longevity, Gail Devers said, is the key in sports. She should know. At the age of 37, the American veteran is halfway to making more track and field history at the world indoor championships. Eleven years after her first indoor 60-meter sprint title, Devers added a third dash gold medal on Friday in 7.08 seconds, her fastest time this season. She also won the 60 in 1997. More important, she completed the tougher first half of an unprecedented double. If Devers wins Sunday's 60-meter hurdles, she will become the first ever athlete to do the double in 10 indoor worlds. Devers accomplished the feat last weekend at the US indoors in Boston, where she did it on the same day. Here, she will have a day of rest in between. On Friday, Devers had to run three times to win the gold—not bad for an athlete who arrived in the Hungarian capital only the day before. *AP*

Basketball Skills Camp April 12

COACH Norman Black together with former national mentors like Francis Rodriguez and PBA legends such as Samboy Lim will teach kids the finer aspects of basketball this summer in the Burlington Basketball Skills Camp. Open to boys and girls, 8 to 18 years old, the cage clinic will be held at the Metro gym, Pioneer, Mandaluyong, Metro Manila starting April 12 from 9 a.m. to noon. Due to a limited number of slots, enrollment in the Burlington-sponsored event will be on a first come, first served basis. For inquiries, call 894-3576 or 894-3014. Deadline of registration is March 15. Aside from the regular training in shooting, dribbling, ball handling, rebounding and passing, the enrollees will also learn how to jump higher and move better through plyometrics according to Coach Black, the camp director. The campers will get free balls, t-shirts, socks and other freebies aside from a certificate of participation. Registration fee is P4,000 for the 27 hours training. Burlington socks customers get a special discount. Meanwhile, Burlington Basketball Skills Camp goes on tour in the following place. UST gym on April 1, 2 and 3; Immaculate Concepcion College in Caloocan on April 5 and 6 and Imus Plaza Court on June 3 and 4.

Bakbakan Open derby stakes ₱3 million

THE NATIONAL Federation of Gamefowl Breeders (NFGB) and Roligon Mega Cockpit have put up a guaranteed prize of P3 million in the upcoming "Bakbakan Open National 8-Cock Derby" on April 12, 14, 16, 19, 21 and 23. Entry fee is P15,000. The elimination rounds (3-cock) is slated April 12, 14 and 16, followed by the semifinals (2-cock) on April 19 and 21. All qualifiers will advance to the grand finals (3-cock) on April 23. Organizers of "Bakbakan" have put up three more elimination rounds exclusive to Visayas and Mindanao breeders. These will be on March 31 (Gallera de Zamboanga); April 3 (Gallera de Matina, Davao City) and April 4 (Iloilo Coliseum, Iloilo City). Interested applicants may get in touch with Bobby Fernandez of Zamboanga Gamefowl Breeders Association (0920-3074225); Nitoy Nasser of Migba (0917-7008934); Ricoy Palmares of Pagba (0917-3030312) and Juancho Aguirre of NGBA (0918-9094540). For inquiries, contact Roligon at 833-2275, 833-1638, 852-9774 and 852-9812 (look for Shirley, Aubrey or Tiling).

Richie Rich 4-cocker set Thursday

BIG TIME cockers are seeing action in Roligon Mega Cockpit's "Richie Rich 4-Cock Derby" on Thursday, March 11. Up for grabs in this derby to be hosted by Richard Perez, Richard Tingsol and Arnold Perez is a cash prize of P400,000 for an entry fee of P11,000. Entries must be submitted on Wednesday, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and interested parties may call 833-2275, 833-1638 and 852-9774. Fielding their bets are Mayor Jessie Viceo, Mayor Bong Bueser, Eric dela Rosa, Butchoy Olano, Cito Manansala, Boyet Medina, Gerald Go, Alfie Sy, sportsman Arnold Perez, Richard Tingsol, Jovel Vicco, Boy Royo, Boy de Roca, Louie Cua, Paula Danta, Ferdie Mitra, Tok Weng, Carlito Ico, Roger del Rosario, Roger Valdez, Jake Macasaet, Edwin Bien, Nestor Villanueva, Jun Castillo and Ronnie dela Cruz. Meanwhile, smalltime cockers and backyard breeders will compete in the "Cash Premyo 3-Cock derby" on April 3. At stake is guaranteed prize of P300,000 while entry fee is P4,400.

Paragua, Dableo head chessfest bets

SEA gold medalist International Masters Mark Paragua and Asian Zonal champion Ronald Dableo lead entries in the first Young Knights Invitational Cup slated March 12-14 at a venue in Manila. The three day P30,000 chessfest (a.k.a. Milo Checkmate Invitational Cup) is exclusively for Milo Checkmate students who had and are attending the program. The competition will apply the seven round Swiss and time control of 75 minutes per player in selecting the top five winners. Registration fee is P100 for currently enrolled; P200 for former students and free for those with master's title. For details, call MCC at 826-8560 and 0916-852-1069.

Calabarzon athletic meet begins

SAN PABLO CITY—The Calabarzon athletic meet (formerly Straa) will start today at the refurbished San Pablo Sports Complex here. San Pablo City Mayor Florante "Boy" Aquino assured thousands of athletes and delegates from Cavite, Laguna, Rizal and Batangas that there would be no major problems for the duration of the meet being held here for the first time in 48 years. Last year, this city also hosted the Little League Philippine Series which drew a record 103 teams.

BADMINTON LAUNCH. John Gusay returns a shot in the Dunlop Play test tournament held during the formal launch of Dunlop Badminton Range 2004 at the Palms Country Club in Alabang, Muntinlupa, Metro Manila.

PBA IN BATAAN. Bataan Gov. Leonardo "Ding" Roman (3rd from left) and Vice Gov. Rogelio "Boy" Roque (left) welcome PBA commissioner Noli Eala (right) and game coordinator George Alcantara during a recent meeting. The PBA will hold a Gran Matador Fiesta Conference game between the Batangay Ginebra Kings and FedEx Express at the Bataan People's Center in Balanga, Bataan on March 11 starting at 5:30 p.m.

Breeder of champions

ONE WINNER

Edwin Villanueva

DID Red Star Rising really fall short by 50 meters when Free Wind beat him in the recent Freedom Cup?

We'll, the *bayang karerista* would find that out today when the two collide again in the Commissioner's Cup.

Two things would be going in favor of Red Star Rising so expect the colt to be sent away as the top choice at post time.

One, the race is going to be disputed over 1,800 meters or 50 meters more than the FC, and two, it will be held at Santa Ana where Red Star Rising notched two major victories last year.

It would be a fitting win if Red Star Rising crosses the wire first because one of the two honorees of this afternoon's big race is Francis Trillana, whose son Michael is the registered owner of the handsome chestnut colt by Khozaam out of Ito's Choice.

Of course, Free Wind remains as the biggest thorn on Red Star Rising's side although the seven other listed runners are all capable of snatching the P600,000 first prize.

***

Unknown to many, Free Wind (Principality-All Pleasant), who showed that he's back in tip-top form by ruling the FC, is bred by no less than Marho chair Sandy Javier.

Aside from Free Wind, two other Javier-bred gallopers are competing in the Commissioner's Cup today.

They are Dandansoy (Lioubovnik-Pain in the Neck) and Mica's Magic (Lioubovnik-Sharika). Dandansoy, in case you don't know, is a namesake of a former galloper raced by Sandy's late father, Leonardo Sr., while Mica's Magic was named after one his his daughters.

Just recently, Javier reaped another honor when he was named Breeder of the Year for the third straight year during the Philtobo Gintong Lahi Awards.

He was the hands-down choice for the award mainly because of the exploits of the now-retired Wind Blown, whom we all know had first gained fame under his ownership.

"*Pag nananalo yung mga kabayong na-*breed *ko, para na rin akong nananalo. Ang* feeling *eh para akong isang ama na nagpa-*graduate *ng isang anak* with flying colors," said Javier, whose star began to rise in the late '80s when one of his first horses named, you guessed it right, Andok's, started winning left and right.

Javier also bred the 1996 Triple Crown winner Strong Material as well as TC leg winners Sapul and Materiales Fuertes, and stakes winners Hombre and Mina's Gold.

And as far as record is concerned, Sandy holds the winningest breeder tag in the prestigious Marho Breeders' Cup championships with 17 victories under his belt, outdistancing the next best breeder by more than 13 wins.

What's getting Sandy extra excited these days is the fact that one of his "babies," the classy Empire King (Perfect Halo-Carta Nueve), is being touted as the hottest candidate to rule the 2004 Triple Crown series.

After Strong Material and Wind Blown, can Sandy achieve another Triple Crown win as a breeder through Empire King? *Subaybayan!*

***

Javier's feat reminds us of the Juddmonte Farms which was voted Breeder of the Year, also for the third year in a row, during the recent Eclipse Awards in the US.

North America's leading breeding farm owned by Saudi Prince Khaled Abdullah zoomed to greater heights last year through the efforts of Empire Maker, who foiled Funny Cide's Triple Crown bid by capturing the Belmont.

Out of 2003 Broodmare of the Year Toussaud, Empire Maker is now one of four stallions standing in the US facilities of the Juddmonte Farms. The others are Aptitude, Distant View and Mizzen Mast.

With three farms in the US and six in England and Ireland, Juddmonte Farms has so far produced 49 Grade One winners, 14 of them classic victors. More than half of its 122 starters in 2003 finished in the top three with earnings of more than $6.2 million.

***

Reader Raymond Illustrasio of Balanga, Bataan, is asking from whom the Eclipse Awards was named after.

According to my Silip Boy, it was named after Eclipse, an 18th century horse who won all of his 18 career starts.

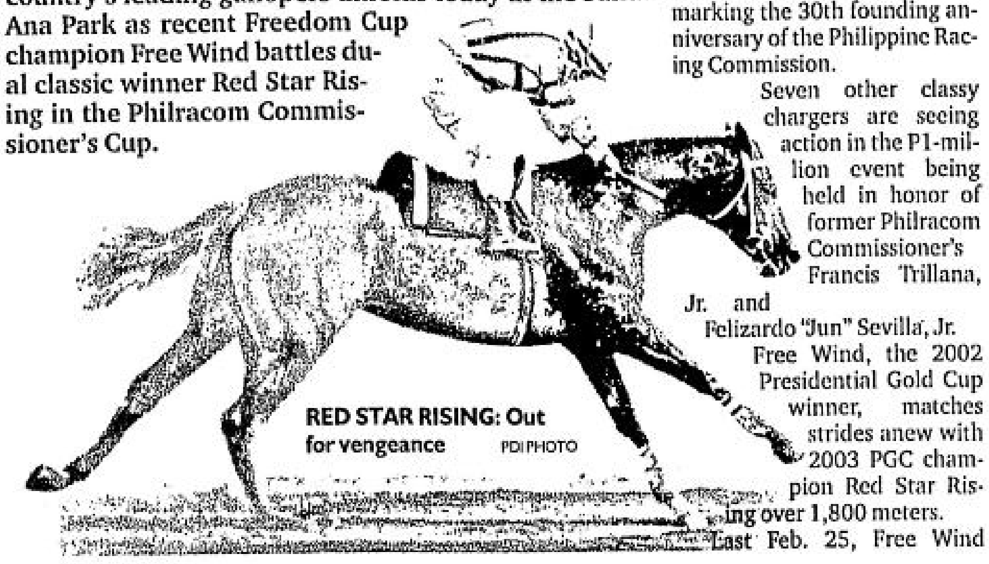
RACING TIPS

AT SANTA ANA
BY MR. 999

Race 1--1. Doctor Ben 2. Impromptu 3. Baby My Beloved 4. Sham Sham
Race 2--1. Magpakailanman 2. Dream Rose 3. Tiny Bubbles/Mint My Love 4. Starry Night 5. Royal Rose
Race 3--1. Lady Lawyer 2. Black Gold 3. Yokozuna
Race 4--1. Ouzo/Neat Laurel 2. Catwalk Pia 3. Material Maker
Race 5--1. Jackpot 2. Portal Dancer 3. Mr. Alien
Race 6--1. Hannichgova 2. Razmoore 3. Cosanne 4. Revolting
Race 7--1. Moab 2. Showtime Lady 3. Cat's Gold
Race 8--1. Red Star Rising 2. Free Wind 3. Dandansoy 4. Mica's Magic 5. Bulakeña
Race 9--1. Blue Sheikh 2. Burst of Speed 3. Dynamic Jason
Race 10--1. Words of Joy 2. All Powerful 3. Silver Cho Cho 4. Magical Charm 5. Pride of Mandaue
Race 11--1. Witch Craft/Friendly Lover 2. Bring Home D Bacon 3. Voice of Destiny 4. Sweet and Lovely
Race 12--1. Khan Caloo 2. Sunny Puddles 3. Velocity
Race 13--1. Give and Take 2. Hurry Prince 3. Road Runner 4. Day Break 5. Hazitcoming
Race 14--1. Strawberry's Wish 2. Gleaming Heart 3. Master Kenneth 4. Last Dance 5. Andrei's Billiard 6. Mina sa Isla

Rematch at Santa Ana today

THE MUCH-AWAITED rematch between two of the country's leading gallopers unfolds today at the Santa Ana Park as recent Freedom Cup champion Free Wind battles dual classic winner Red Star Rising in the Philracom Commissioner's Cup.



RED STAR RISING: Out for vengeance PDI PHOTO

Free Wind-Red Star Rising is the first of two highlight races marking the 30th founding anniversary of the Philippine Racing Commission.

Seven other classy chargers are seeing action in the P1-million event being held in honor of former Philracom Commissioner's Francis Trillana, Jr. and Felizardo "Jun" Sevilla, Jr.

Free Wind, the 2002 Presidential Gold Cup winner, matches strides anew with 2003 PGC champion Red Star Rising over 1,800 meters.

Last Feb. 25, Free Wind held off Red Star Rising to win the Freedom Cup over 1,750 meters.

This time, the additional 50-meter distance of the Commissioner's Cup, as well as the change of race venue, may well give rise to a truly exciting homestretch duel.

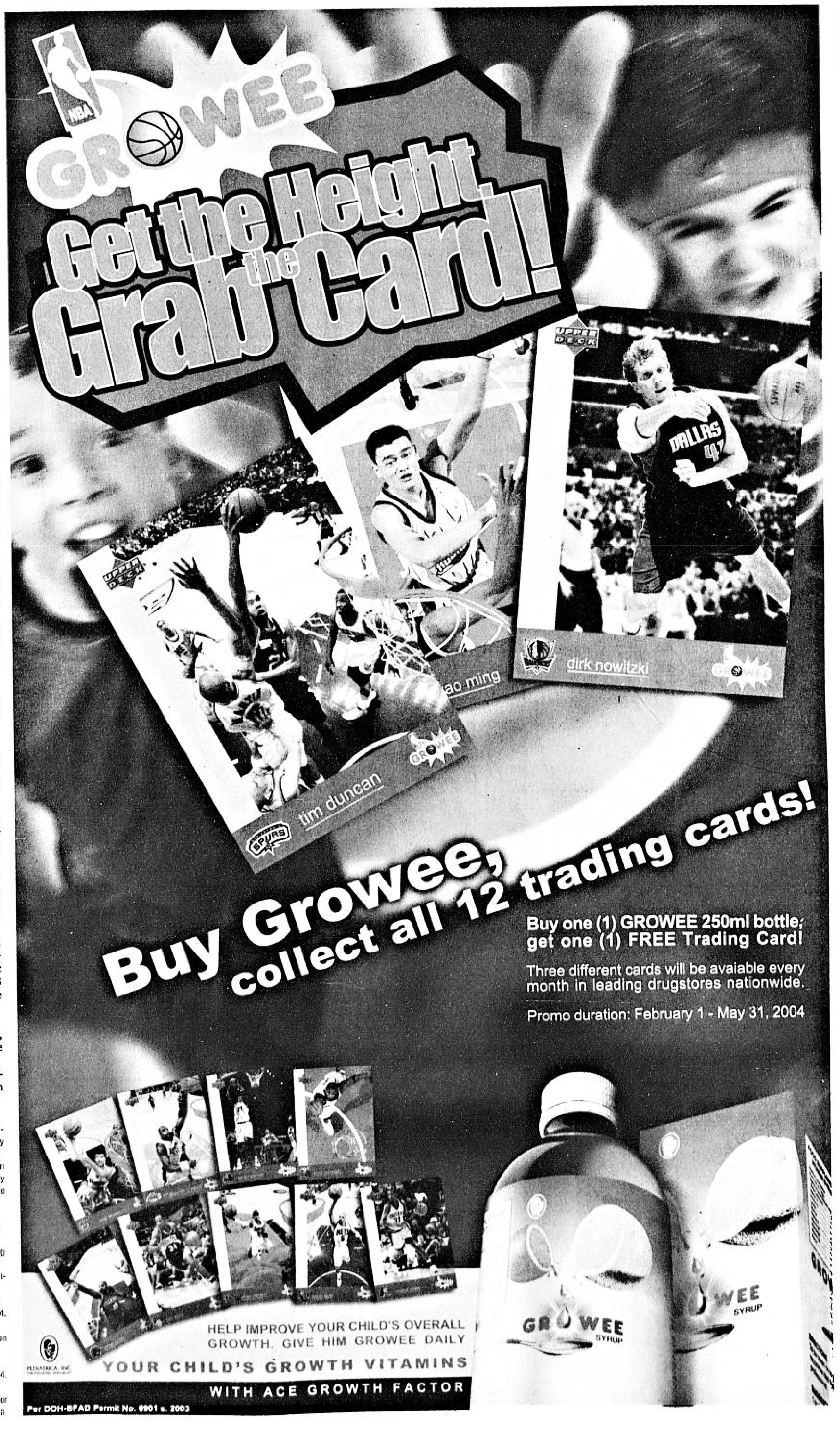
Veteran riders Manolito Daquis and Joe Noel Camu will be back atop Red Star Rising and Free Wind, respectively.

Expected to give the favorites a good run for the top money are seven other game rivals led by seasoned stakes campaigners Dandansoy, Hyperbid, Mica's Magic, Success Story and War Hero, as well as, Bulakeña and Music Express.

Lending support to the day's main event is the running of three Commissioner's Cup Invitational Races with a guaranteed winner's prize of P150,000 each.

Trillana and Sevilla are expected to grace the affair along with Philracom chair Jimmy Dilag and commissioners Eddie Jose, Ediardo Domingo Jr., Vergel Cruz and Roger Tandiama.

The field for the Commissioner's Cup: Success Story (JT Zarate, 56 kilos), Music Express (JB Guce, 56), Red Star Rising (MF Daquis, 56), Dandansoy (DH Borbe Jr., 54), Bulakeña (VM Camañero Jr., 54), Mica's Magic (CP Domingo Jr., 54), Free Wind (JD Camu, 56), War Hero (PR Dilema, 54) and Hyperbid (VR Dilema, 56).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1 RUN AWAY JURY
2 ANNIE B
3 GOTHIKA
4 WHISING STAIRS

Cine Nepo
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.0121

1 KUYA
2 ANNIE B
3 (DOLBY) GOTHIKA
4 RUN AWAY JURY

Cine Nepo
(Dagupan City) tel (075) 515.8489

1 ANNIE B
2 KUYA
3 (DOLBY) HAUNTED MANSION
4 CHASING LIBERTY

CINEMA 2000

Cinema 2000 Target Mall
(Sta. Rosa, Laguna) tel (049) 837.0926

1 WATER DEMON
2 GOTHIKA
3 (DTS) ANNIE B

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383

1 WATER DEMON
2 (DTS) ANNIE B
3 (DOLBY) GOTHIKA
4 SOMETHING GOTTA GIVE

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall
(Biñan) tel (049) 411.1146

1 ANNIE B
2 (DOLBY) GOTHIKA
3 (DTS) SOMETHING GOTTA GIVE
4 WATER DEMON

Cinema 2000 Cinemagix
(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771

1 KUYA
2 CHASING LIBERTY
3 (DOLBY) HAUNTED MANSION

Cinema 2000 Metrotown
(Tarlac) tel (045) 982.1729

1 ANNIE B
2 CHASING LIBERTY
3 (DOLBY) KUYA
4 (DTS) WISHING STAIRS

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Plaridel) tel (044) 795-3320

1 ANNIE B
2 HAUNTED MANSION
3 RUN AWAY JURY

Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276

1 (SDDS) WATER DEMON
2 PALIGAYAHIN MO AKO
3 U BELT
4 (DTS) GHOST HOUSE

Lianas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202

1 (DOLBY) GOTHIKA
2 ANNIE B
3 (DTS) WATER DEMON
4 SOMETHING GOTTA GIVE
5 GHOST HOUSE

Olivarez Tri-Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.8883

1 ANNIE B
2 GHOST HOUSE

Olivarez Los Baños
tel (049) 249.2558

1 GOTHIKA
2 ANNIE B
3 SOMETHING GOTTA GIVE

Mega Center Mall
(Cabanatuan City) tel (044) 463.3283

1 U BELT
2 KUYA
3 (DTS) CHASING LIBERTY
4 (DOLBY) ANNIE B

Cabuyao
(Laguna City) tel 520.8914

1 (DTS) RESERVE

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790

1 U BELT
2 SOMETHING GOTTA GIVE
3 COLD MOUNTAIN
4 ANNIE B

Emperor
(Rosario Cavite) tel (046) 438.1657

1 ANNIE B
2 U BELT

*Movies are subject to change without prior notice

ADVANCED SCREENING THX DOLBY dts SDDS

FESTIVAL CINEMA
Level 4
Festival Supermall
Filinvest - Alabang
Tel 85035-71 to 72
Schedule subject to change without prior notice

julia roberts
mona lisa smile

NOW SHOWING

Tiger 6 shots behind

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates—Despite distractions, jetlag and playing so-so golf, Tiger Woods remains in contention through two rounds of the Dubai Desert Classic.

Woods shot a 3-under-par 69 on Friday, leaving him six strokes behind leader Paul McGinley. The Irish Ryder Cup player had a 65, and was one stroke ahead of his American playing partner Mark O'Meara.

Englishmen Greg Owen (65) and Brian Davis (66) were three behind the leader. Two more Englishmen were a further stroke back: Simon Dyson (69) and Paul Casey (68).

First-round leader Bradley Dredge of Wales, who opened with a 64, was at par through nine holes on Friday.

In Miami, Retief Goosen and Phil Mickelson came to the Ford Championship as the two highest ranked players in the field. After two windy rounds on the beefed-up Blue Monster course, they're 1-2 on the leaderboard, too.

Goosen shot a 4-under 68 in the second round of the Ford Championship on Friday, moving him to 9-under 135 and one shot ahead of Mickelson (69), Craig Parry (65) and Todd Hamilton (68). *AP*

Laguna run set

FOUR companies, led by Nissan Motor Philippines, Incorporated (NMPI), have extended their support to the Laguna Marathon 2004 set for April 25 in Biñan, Laguna.

Around 1,500 runners are set to compete in the 42.195-kilometer run which rewards the male and female champions with P15,000 cash prizes.

"We can never go wrong with sports and we will always be there," said NMPI marketing director Raymond Tribdino.

Aside from the giant car company, the early backers of the 4-in-1 running event were Balfour Beatty Cleveland JV (a British construction company) headed by Philippines director Grahame Coles, Pepsi Cola Products Phils. Inc. thru regional sales manager Allan Ignacio-Sia and the Pavillion Mall, the venue for starting/finish line.

Registration is now going on at the Iron Man Bike Shop located in 98 A. Mabini St., Bgy. Poblacion, San Pedro Laguna c/o San Pedro Team Unified Sports Association (SPTUSA) president Rommel "Jing" Anchoriz.

Interested runners may contact SPTUSA chair Louie Mangahis at 813-1420 and cellphone no. 0916-6604727, Anchoriz (8687588 and 0920-2862195), SPTUSA Pro Ompong Rances (7789518), councilor Lody Casacop (0916-4452770) and Asuncion (0919-2830777).

Schumacher sets lap mark

MELBOURNE, Australia—World champion Michael Schumacher took pole position with another lap record and paced another Ferrari 1-2 finish in back-to-back qualifying sessions Saturday for the season-opening Australian Grand Prix.

Schumacher and teammate Rubens Barrichello will line up in the front row of the grid Sunday after both going under the record time on the 5.303-kilometer (3.295-mile) Albert Park circuit in qualifying.

Six-time Formula One drivers' champion Schumacher set the new mark for one lap in Melbourne at 1 minute, 24.408 seconds, a fraction ahead of Barrichello in 1:24.482. Both were quicker than the record 1:24.718 Schumacher had set in free practice on Friday.

Williams' Juan Pablo Montoya and Bar driver Jenson Button will start from the second row of the grid after both clocked 1:24.998 on their flying laps.

Renault's Fernando Alonso was fifth, more than one second behind Schumacher, while his teammate Jarno Trulli was ninth.

Australian Mark Webber pushed his Jaguar into sixth place, while Japanese driver Takuma Sato got the second Bar car into seventh place in 1:25.851.

Williams' Ralf Schumacher was eighth in 1:25.925, while the McLaren's had a poor session and will start Sunday in 10th and 12th. *AP*

Araneta Center
ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

ALI MALL CINEPLEX 7

Ali 1	CLOSED
Ali 2	CLOSED
Ali 3	ANNIE B.
Ali 4	GOTHIKA
Ali 5	TORQUE
Ali 6	DRAGON VS. NINJA
Ali 7	WATER DEMON

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MAR 10	PBA: REDBULL VS. SHELL
MAR 12	SONG BIRD & SONG WRITER REPEAT
MAR 13	PBA: PUREFOODS VS. STA. LUCIA
MAR 14	PBA: GINEBRA VS. COKE
MAR 16	NCA 7-COCK DEBY
MAR 17	PBA STA LUCIA VS TALK 'N' TEXT

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THEATER MOVIE GUIDE

MANILA

EASTERN	
MAXIM	CLOSED
MIRAMAR	SEX BOMB / RAMPADORA
ODEON	X-MEN 2
ODEON-2	BUKID AY BASA / KASIBULAN
ROBEN	BOLD STAR
TANDEM-1	SUGAT
TANDEM-2	KATAWAN MO LANGIT KO
TIMES	SPY: LEGEND OF CROCODILE

QUEZON CITY

ACT-1	SENSUAL ISLAND
ACT-2	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ACT-3	ORIGINAL SIN
ACT-4	HANGGANG KAILAN KA PAPATAY
CORONET A	MAPUSOK / HAPDI
CORONET B	A MAN APART
QUEZON-1	BERTUD NG PUTIK
REMAR	X-MEN 2
REMAR-2	BOLD STAR

NOVA MALL - NOVALICHES CINEMA

A	ANNIE B.
B	
C	

MANDALUYONG CITY

SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL	635-20-79 / 633-78-51 TO 70
CINEMA-1	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
CINEMA-2	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION

CAINTA RIZAL

STA. LUCIA EAST	(681-5401 TO 19)
CINEMA-1	KUYA
CINEMA-2	U-BELT
CINEMA-3	SOMETHINGS GOTTA GIVE
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	DUPLEX
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	WATER DEMON
CINEMA-6	GHOST HOUSE
CINEMA-7	TUKAAN
CINEMA-8	HAUNTED MANSION
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	TORQUE
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	GOTHIKA
CINEMA-11 (SDDS)	COLD MOUNTAIN
CINEMA-12	DRAGON VS NINJA
CINEMA-14	ANNIE B
CINEMA-15	MILAN

LORES

CINEMA-2	SENSUAL ISLAND
CINEMA-3	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT

NE CINEMAGIC - CABANATUAN

(LAS PIÑAS)	CHASING LIBERTY
CINEMA-1	ANNIE B
CINEMA-2	KUYA
CINEMA-4	[illegible]

UNIWIDE COASTAL MALL

(PARAÑAQUE)	[illegible]
CINEMA-1	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
CINEMA-2	MEN IN BLACK II
CINEMA-4	SELDA

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CINEMA 1	**GOTHIKA** 11:00, 1:10, 3:20, 5:30, 7:40, 10:00 **R13**
CINEMA 2	**SOMETHING'S GOTTA GIVE** 12:10, 2:55, 5:40, 8:30 **R13**

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MAR. 17 & 18	"WILLIE NEP 4 PRESIDENT"	9:00PM

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E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave. (C-5) Quezon City

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For inquiries, call:
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RESERVED SEATING

MOVIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

1	**SOMETHING'S GOTTA GIVE** 11:03, 2:20, 5:10, 8:00, 10:50 R-13
2	**TORQUE** 11:00, 1:10, 3:20 5:30, 10:40, 9:50 PG-13
3	**GOTHIKA** 11:15, 1:30, 3:50 6:10, 8:30, 10:50 R-13
4	**DUPLEX** 11:45, 1:45, 3:45 5:45, 7:45, 9:45 R-13

POWER PLANT CINEMA

Rockwell Center, Makati City ☎ Tel. No: 8981440-41

DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX

LOST IN TRANSLATION **PG13** 12:50, 3:05, 5:20, 7:35, 9:50	**DUPLEX** **PG13** 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00, 8:00, 10:00	**TORQUE** **PG13** 11:15, 1:25, 3:35, 5:45, 7:55, 10:20
GOTHIKA **R13** 1:20, 3:40, 6:00, 8:20, 10:30	**MYSTIC RIVER** **R13** 1:25, 4:10, 6:55, 9:40	**SOMETHING GOTTA GIVE** **R13** 12:10, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:10

MATINEE P80.00 - FREE SEATING - SCREENINGS BEFORE 5 PM - MON. TO FRI.

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2	**SOMETHING'S GOTTA GIVE** 11:50, 2:30, 5:10, 7:45, 10:00
3	**LOST IN TRANSLATION** 11:05, 1:10, 3:15, 5:20, 7:25, 9:30 DTS
4	**DUPLEX** 11:40, 1:40, 3:40, 5:40, 7:40, 9:40
5	**TORQUE** 10:50, 1:00, 3:10, 5:20, 7:30, 9:45
6	**GOTHIKA** 10:10, 12:25, 2:40, 5:00, 7:20, 9:40 SDDS
7	**GAWI: THE NIGHTMARE** 12:05, 2:15, 4:25, 6:40, 9:00
8	**COLD MOUNTAIN** 12:10, 3:00, 6:00, 9:00
9	**MILAN** 11:20, 2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 10:00 DOLBY
10	**DRAGON VS. NINJA** 12:30, 2:35, 4:40, 6:50, 9:00

MATINEE: Monday to Friday/ 10 am-4pm except holidays
Matinee Price: P100 THX cinema / P80 for one level cinemas
Regular Price: P130 THX / P95/65 for two levels cinemas / P95 for one level cinemas

ERMITA
526-7185 / 536-7809 to 12

DOLBY DIGITAL

1	**TORQUE** 11:00, 1:05, 3:10, 5:15, 7:20, 9:40
2	**SOMETHING'S GOTTA GIVE** 11:20, 2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 10:00
3	**MILAN** 11:10, 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50
4	**DRAGON VS. NINJA** 11:00, 1:10, 3:20, 5:30, 7:40, 9:50
5	**ANNIE B.** 10:35, 12:50, 3:05, 5:20, 7:35, 9:50
6	**DUPLEX** 10:20, 12:15, 2:10, 4:05, 6:00, 7:55, 9:50 SDDS
7	**GOTHIKA** 10:10, 12:25, 2:40, 4:55, 7:10, 9:40

Big R Supercenter METRO EAST
682-8193/99 / 682-8280

1	**DUPLEX** 10:50, 12:50, 2:50, 4:50, 6:50, 9:00
2	**GOTHIKA** 10:45, 1:20, 3:55, 6:30, 9:05 SDDS
3	**TORQUE** 10:50, 12:50, 2:50, 4:50, 6:50, 9:00
4	**DRAGON VS. NINJA** 11:25, 2:00, 4:25, 6:50, 9:15
5	**COLD MOUNTAIN** 10:30, 12:15, 3:00, 5:45, 9:00
6	**SOMETHING GOTTA GIVE** 10:20, 12:30, 3:20, 6:10, 9:00
7	**MILAN** 10:35, 1:05, 3:35, 6:05, 9:00 DTS
8	**ANNIE B.** 10:30, 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00

Big R Supercenter NOVALICHES / FAIRVIEW
935-3229 / 31

1	**TORQUE** 11:25, 1:55, 3:05, 4:55, 6:45, 8:35
2	**DUPLEX** 11:20, 1:10, 3:00, 4:50, 6:40, 8:30
3	**ANNIE B.** 11:45, 1:55, 4:05, 6:15, 8:30
4	**COLD MOUNTAIN** 11:55, 2:40, 5:25, 8:30
5	**DRAGON VS. NINJA** 11:45, 1:55, 4:05, 6:15, 8:30
6	**GOTHIKA** 11:45, 1:55, 4:05, 6:15, 8:30
7	**SOMETHING'S GOTTA GIVE** 11:15, 1:35, 3:55, 6:15, 8:35
8	**GAWI: THE NIGHTMARE** 11:40, 1:45, 3:50, 5:55, 8:10

Citisquare MALABON
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1	TORQUE
2	DRAGON VS. NINJA
3	ANNIE B.
4	GOTHIKA

big Supercenter CAINTA
240-4661

1	TORQUE
2	MILAN
3	ANNIE B.
4	GOTHIKA

Big R Supercenter STA. ROSA
Laguna (049)837-0907

1	MILAN
2	GOTHIKA
3	ANNIE B.
4	SOMETHING'S GOTTA GIVE
5	GHOST HOUSE

Big R Supercenter LIPA
757-3664 / 312-5870

1	COLD MOUNTAIN
2	ANNIE B.
3	U-BELT
4	MILAN
5	SOMETHING'S GOTTA GIVE

Big R Supercenter DASMARIÑAS
852-2125

1	U-BELT
2	GHOST HOUSE
3	SOMETHING'S GOTTA GIVE
4	MILAN
5	ANNIE B.

Big R Supercenter STARMILLS
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1	DUPLEX
2	MILAN
3	LOST IN TRANSLATION
4	ANNIE B.
5	GOTHIKA
6	RUNAWAY JURY

IMUS
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1	TORQUE
2	DRAGON VS. NINJA
3	ANNIE B.
4 DTS	GOTHIKA
5	MILAN
6	WATER DEMON

BACOLOD
441-0458/59

1	COLD MOUNTAIN
2	HAUNTED MANSION
3	IN THE CUT
4	CHASING LIBERTY
5	DUPLEX
6	MILAN

ILOILO
336-8070/78

1	HAUNTED MANSION
2	CHASING LIBERTY
3	COLD MOUNTAIN
4	WRONG TURN
5	U-BELT
6	MAGIC KITCHEN

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Tambunting nets 69, scores repeat in Southwoods tilt

TAMBUNTING

JOSEPH Tambunting led an explosive assault of the Masters and Legends courses defanged by the absence of winds to shoot a net three-under-par 69 and win Class A for the second straight time in the members monthly tournament for February of the Manila Southwoods Golf and Country Club course.

Tambunting's gross of 73 at the Masters also proved to be the low gross as he duplicated his big win last month with a one-stroke win over Larry Tojino and Joseph Hodreal.

All seven division winners ended up in the red numbers with Roberto Agojo, the Class C champion, checking in with the best net of the day. The uncle of jun-golf sensation Jayvie fired a tournamet-low net 62 to beat Mario Badillo and Bobby Asis by four.

Joining Tambunting and Agojo in the roster of winners were Jed Rosero in Class B, Rudy Gorka in Class D and Antonio Go in Class E. Lanfen Hsieh topped ladies Group II in runaway fashion while Celones scored her first victory by ruling Group II.

Sponsored by Mitsubishi Motors, Diamond Motors, Northwest Airlines, Royal Carribean International, Thai Airways, Samsung and Wilson Sports, the tourney drew a field of 281 members.

Ed Lacson, meanwhile, bagged the biggest prize in the raffle—a 29-inch Samsung Flat TV.

The top finishers all won Samsung appliances with the champion getting a 17-inch TV, the runner-up DVD player and the third placer a microwave oven.

The club is now preparing for the March tournament on the 14th of this month and the Manila Southwoods Invitational member-guest which will be played on April 1-4.

Rosero figured in a three-way tie for first with Moroo Shino and Manny Santander—all having similar 66s—but prevailed in the countback. Go was another winner via a tiebreak after Dante Santos matched his score of 63.

Gorka handily won his division with a 64, placing four strokes ahead of Rolly Aguilar and Wellington Kho. Hsieh beat Yvette Ilagan by eight strokes and Celones won by two over Luisa Sison.

Corporate Cup gets going March 9-11

A MEXICAN Riviera cruise and round-trip tickets to Los Angeles will be at stake as hole-in-one prizes in the 16th edition of the Corporate Cup golf championship set on March 9-11 at the Camp John Hay Golf Club in Baguio City.

Royal Carribean International (RCI) and Northwest Airlines are putting the eight days and seven nights Mexican Riviera Cruise and LA tickets up for grabs on designated holes during the two-day tournament.

At least 20 five-man teams are disputing the top awards in the five divisions: Group I for teams with a handicap average of 2.5-9.9, Group II for 10-13.99, Group III for 14-18.99, Group IV for 19-above and the seniors category for players 55 years and above.

Sponsors for the country's longest corporate bash are Camp John Hay Development Corp., Fil-Estate Group of Companies, PLDT Business Solutions, Dynamic Sports Corp., CAP Philippines, Wilson, Le Chef and Intex Telecom Systems. The Camp John Hay Manor is the official hotel.

The host club, already accorded the honor as the permanent home of the Corporate Cup, has graciously allowed a free practice round for all entries on Tuesday, March 9.

Tournament founder Cecil Hechanova said that among the teams are *balikbayan* entries coming from the men's and seniors competitions of the PAL Interclub and those enjoying their annual vacations from various destinations abroad.

"We're glad to have them back and we'll surely have two fun days of golf and fellowship," said Hechanova.

Teams representing tournament sponsors will mix it up with the local and foreign squads.

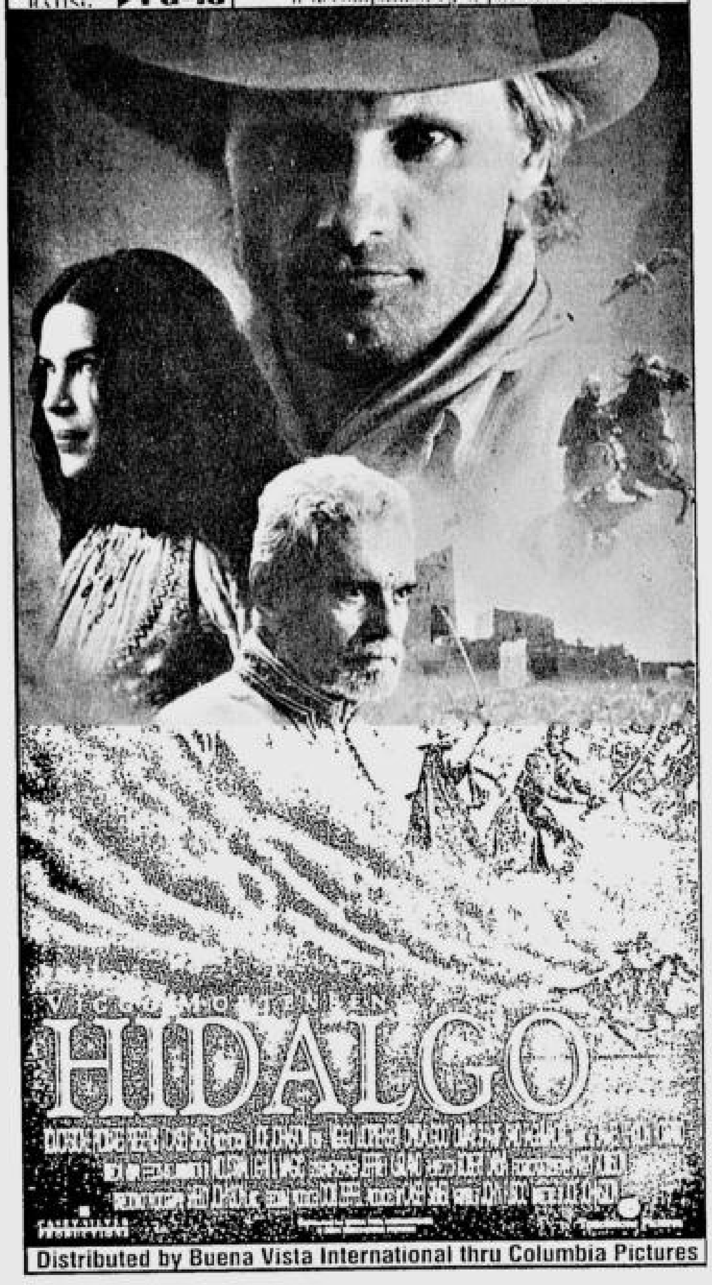
Fistorama on RPN-9

SAMSUNG's Fistorama today features two exciting six-rounders in the light-flyweight and flyweight divisions. Gomer Minosa faces Danny Linasa at 112 lbs. while Benedict Suico fights Noel Badeng at 108 lbs. The fights were held recently at the state-of-the-art Joe Cantada Boxing Arena in Bicutan, Taguig.

Samsung's Fistorama is aired weekly in the United States, Europe, Australia, Japan and the Middle East through ABS-CBN's Pinoy Central TV.

Now on its second year, the show is aired at 2 p.m., Sundays, on RPN 9.

THE RACE TO END ALL RACES
BEGINS MARCH 10 !
MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13
Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult



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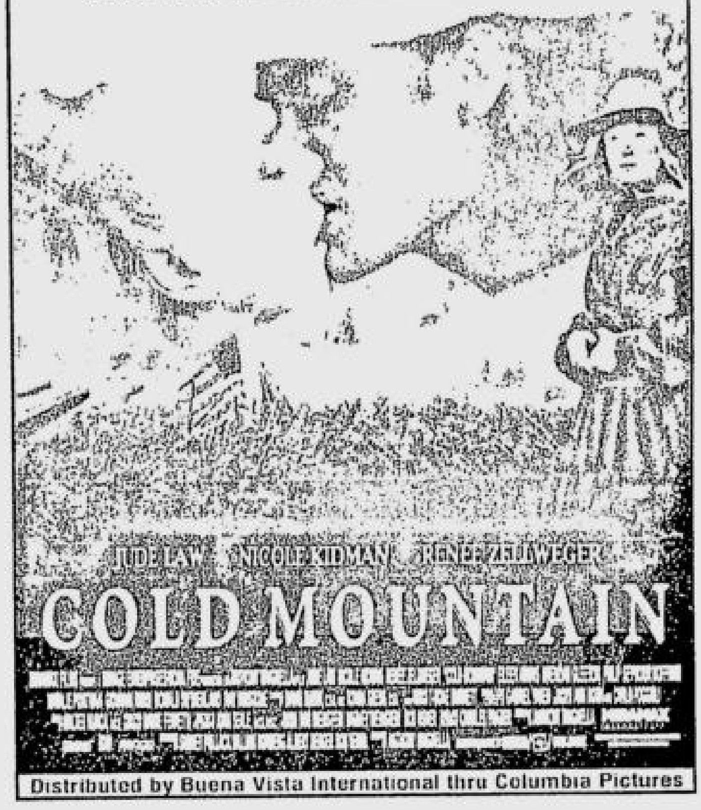

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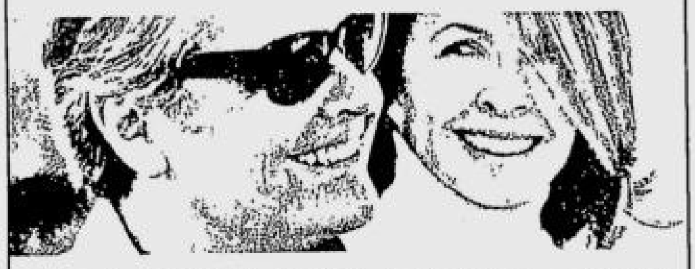

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WORKSHOP May 3 - 14
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please call mfi
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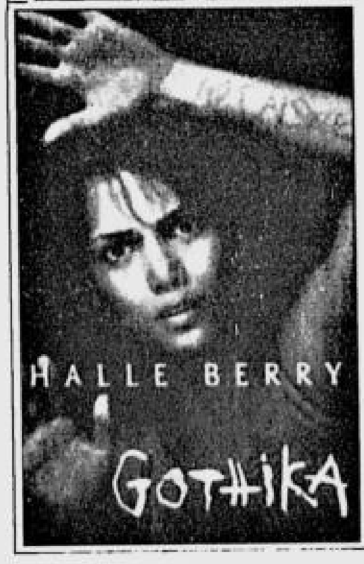

Ghost story is "scary as hell"
Vengeful ghost in 'GOTHIKA'
"Because she is dead doesn't mean she's gone...".
Academy Award®-winner Halle Berry stars in Columbia Pictures' spine-chilling horror thriller as Dr. Miranda Grey, a criminal psychologist who awakens to find herself a patient in her own mental institution with no memory of the murder she's apparently committed. Haunted by a vengeful female ghost, Miranda must find out if she is being led farther from her sanity or closer to the truth. *GOTHIKA* also stars Robert Downey Jr. and Penelope Cruz.
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MTRCB Rating Restricted (13)

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PMI 5, Lyceum prevail

LUCENA CITY—Philippine Maritime Institute repeated over University of Perpetual Help-Rizal, 69-58, to rule the intercollegiate division of the National Students Basketball Championship at the Quezon Convention Center here yesterday.

The win underscored the Mariners' dominance over the Altas, whom they beat, 76-70, in the NCR eliminations last month. And just like that win, PMI employed the zone defense to the hilt.

"*Kahit naman noong eliminations pa, talagang nagsosona na kami* against UPHR. (We've been using the zone against UPHR even in the eliminations)," said PMI coach Diosdado Santiago.

In the juniors division, the San Beda Red Cubs ripped La Salle Greenhills, 88-66, to clinch its 12th national juniors title in the inter-secondary side of the weeklong event jointly organized by the Basketball Association of the Philippines and the provincial government of Quezon and sponsored by Cebuana Lhuillier, FedEx, Burlington, Molten, Absolute Distilled Water, Healthy Options and Philippine Sports Commission.

Cris Sta. Maria and Larry Rodriguez led PMI with 16 points each, while MVP Nino Marquez added 13.

In the women's division, Lyceum University downed Ateneo de Manila, 46-41, to cop the women's title. The Lady Pirates had also beaten the Lady Eagles, 53-50, in overtime in the eliminations.

Divina Reyes paced Lyceum with 16 points and was voted MVP.

Puerto all set to host 'moto' tilt

PUERTO Princesa is all set to host the biggest motocross event in Philippine history dubbed as the 2004 FIM Puerto Princesa International Motocross Championship-Motocross Masters of Asia to be staged on sprawling four-hectare site adjacent to the City Hall on March 28.

The event is sponsored by Dusit Hotel Nikko, The Legend Hotel, Philippine Airlines, Bridgestone, Oakley, Polysport, Triplex, Highland Products, Yehey.com, ABC-5's Speed, www.motorcycle-philippines.com, the City of Puerto Princesa, the Philippine Sports Commission and the Department of Tourism.

Top riders from 10 nations in Asia, Oceania and the USA including the Philippines have confirmed their participation.

For more details, direct inquiries via e-mail to namssa01@hotmail.com or call the Namssa Secretariat at 09178992363.

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-- Paul Clinton, CNN

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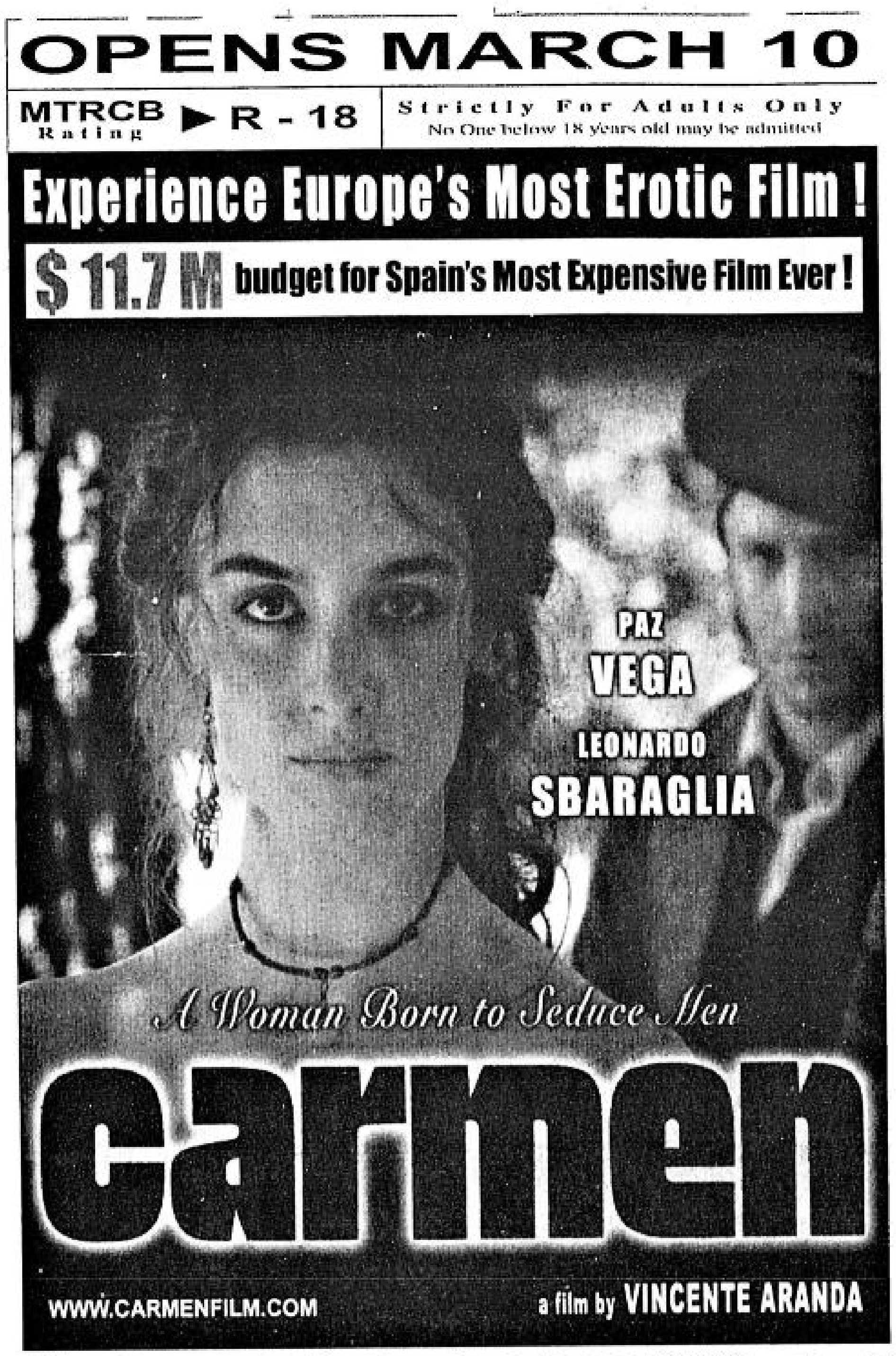

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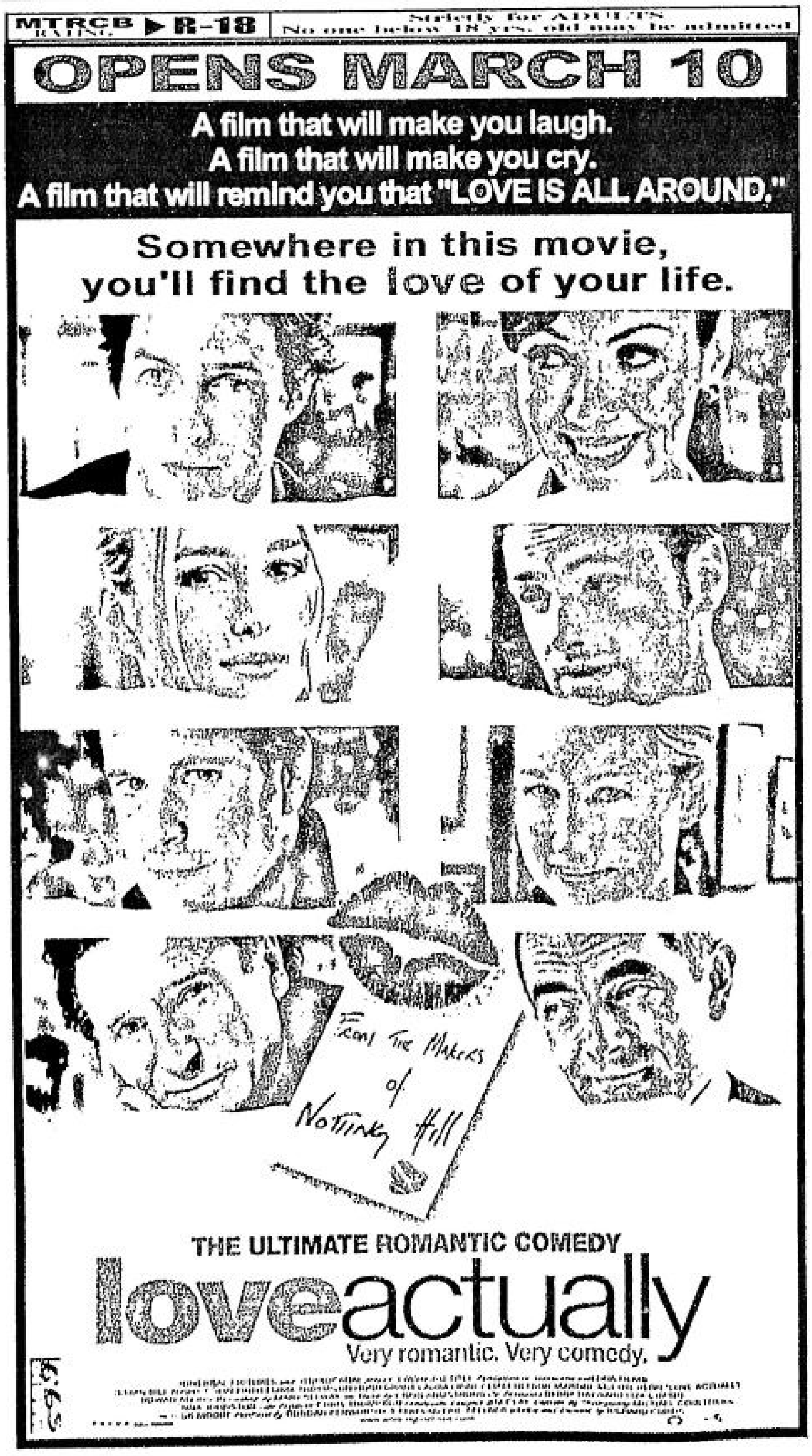

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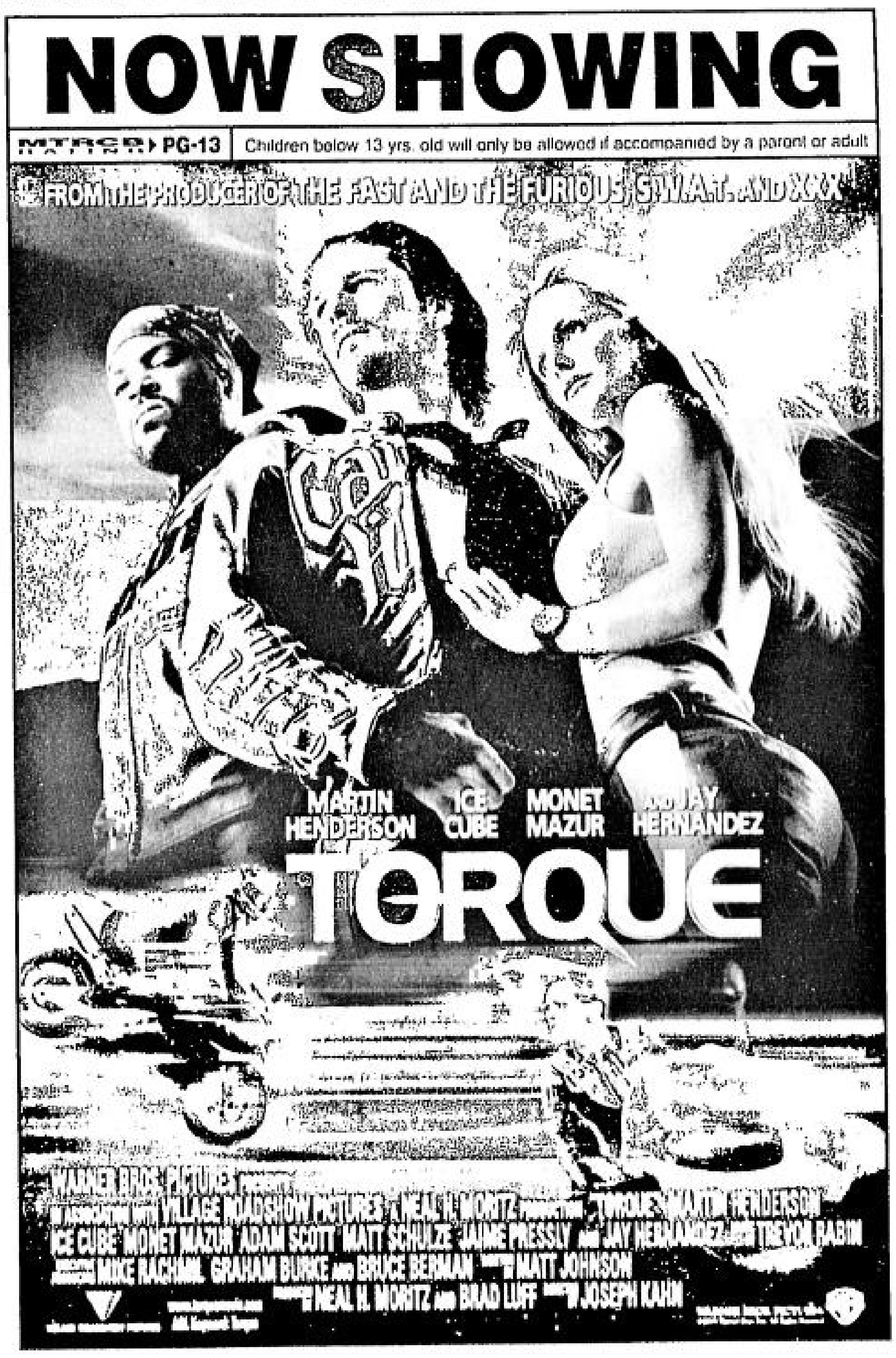

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Henin-Hardenne ousted

DOHA, Qatar—World No. 1 Justine Henin-Hardenne lost for the first time this year to Svetlana Kuznetsova of Russia, 6-2, 4-6, 6-3, in the semifinals of the Qatar Open on Friday.

Henin-Hardenne had won 16 straight matches to start the season, and earned the titles at the Australian Open, Sydney and Dubai, where she beat Kuznetsova in the final last weekend.

Kuznetsova will meet defending champion Anastasia Myskina in an all-Russian final on Saturday, after Myskina thrashed second-seeded Jennifer Capriati, 6-2, 6-2.

Kuznetsova beat Henin-Hardenne for the first time in five meetings, in a match which lasted almost two hours before a packed Khalifa Tennis Complex filled with flag-waving Belgian fans.

The 18-year-old Russian, who moved into the top 20 for the first time this week, wasted little time settling into the match. *AP*

Roddick in semis

SCOTTSDALE, Arizona—Unseeded Victor Hanescu of Romania upset second-seeded Martin Verkerk, and top-seeded Andy Roddick got by a nemesis to advance Friday to the semifinals of the Franklin Templeton Tennis Classic. Hanescu beat the Dutchman, 7-5, 6-4, and advanced to his first semifinal. Earlier Friday, Hanescu topped Swede Robin Soderling, 6-3, 6-7 (5), 6-3, in a second-round match.

Roddick beat Jan-Michael Gambill, 6-7 (4), 6-4, 6-3. It was the first time in three tries Roddick has beaten Gambill. *AP*

Shaq lifts LA past Seattle

Bryant injures shoulder

LOS ANGELES—Shaquille O'Neal took over after Kobe Bryant went out early with a shoulder injury, scoring 32 points Friday night in the Los Angeles Lakers' 99-91 victory over Seattle.

Bryant hurt his right shoulder in a collision with Seattle's Reggie Evans in the first minute of the game and left the arena to have an MRI. There was no immediate report on the severity of the injury, although team spokesman John Black said Bryant had jammed it.

The Lakers' star underwent surgery on the same shoulder this past off-season, and also missed six games earlier this year after he sprained it on Jan. 12 in a collision with Cleveland's Kedrick Brown.

O'Neal added eight rebounds and six assists as Los Angeles won for the ninth time in 11 games.

The Lakers' Gary Payton left the game against his former team late in the third quarter because of a mild neck strain, but returned early in the fourth. He finished with 16 points, seven rebounds and seven assists.

Reserve Ronald Murray had 28 points for Seattle, and Ray Allen scored 19 as the Sonics lost for the sixth time in seven games.

Bryant was hurt when he ran into Evans, who was setting a pick, just 54 seconds into the game. Bryant was sandwiched between Evans and Ray Allen, who was trying to go around Evans.

Meanwhile, Tony Parker was in rampant form as he spurred San Antonio to a 113-100 victory over the Dallas Mavericks.

The absence of two-time MVP Tim Duncan, who was sidelined for a fourth straight game with a knee injury, barely troubled the Spurs.

Paul Pierce scored 24 points and pulled down 10 rebounds as the Boston Celtics won their fourth straight game, outlasting the Washington Wizards, 94-90.

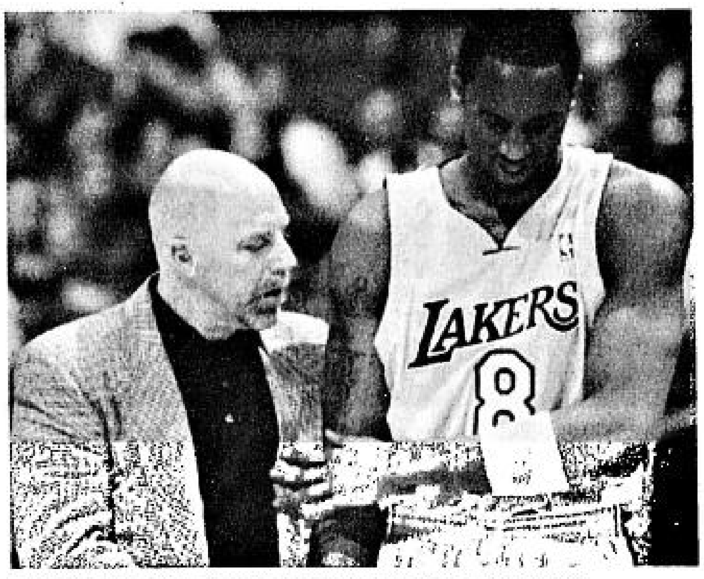
NBA scoring leader Tracy McGrady notched 28 points to help the Orlando Magic dump the visiting Atlanta Hawks, 101-96.

Super rookie LeBron James notched 19 points and Carlos Boozer added 18 to guide the Cleveland Cavaliers to an 88-85 victory over the New Orleans Hornets.

Yao Ming had 27 points and Steve Francis counted 25 more as the Houston Rockets surprised the Minnesota Timberwolves, 112-109. *AP, Reuters*

Complete results:

Orlando 101, Atlanta 96; New York 109, Toronto 103; Boston 94, Washington 90; Cleveland 88, New Orleans 85; Houston 112, Minnesota 109; San Antonio 113, Dallas 100; Indiana 96, Utah 88; New Jersey 78, Golden State 74; LA Lakers 99, Seattle 91.



BRYANT (right) is attended to by Lakers trainer Gary Vitti before leaving the game in the first quarter. AFP

Osaka rips Cristalife

BATCH 86-Osaka scored its first win at the expense of Batch 87-Cristalife, 61-53, in the Osaka Iridology-San Carlos Boys' High Alumni Basketball Association (SCBHABA) at the USC Boys High Gym.

The tournament is participated in by the school alumni who play for their respective batches. Jonathan Guardo of the sponsoring Guardo Group of Companies was the main man for Osaka 86's first win, scoring 10 crucial points that put the Cristalife dribblers away in the homestretch.

Arthro '93 demolished Skygo '95, 73-65, in the opening match of the tournament, a yearly project of the SCBHABA, headed by Christian Solon.

In the other games, Hotong Hardware '70 prevailed over Shido '90, while Tamaraw '81 defeated Libresse '82, 78-67.

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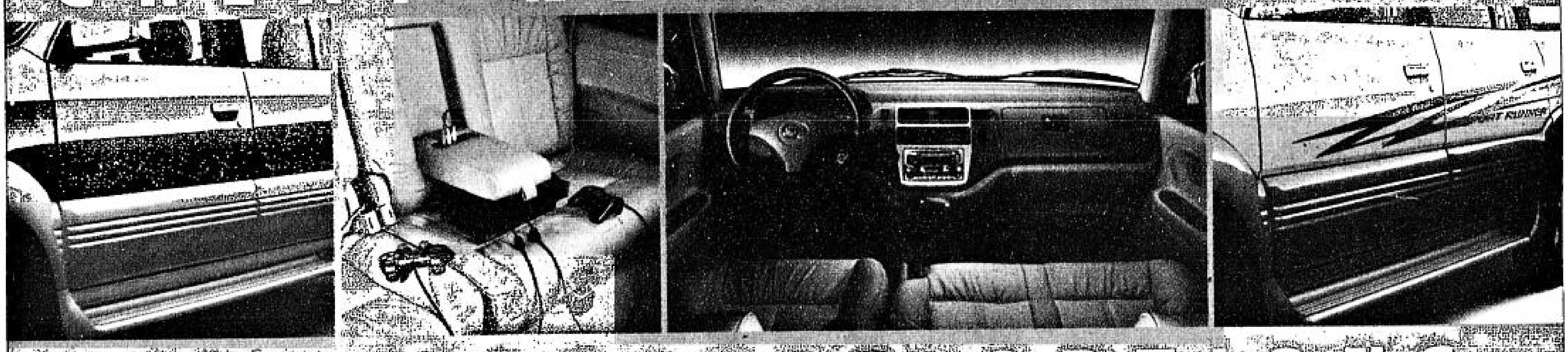

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Sunday BIZ

Business Features Editor Margie Quimpo-Espino

He achieved more than he set out to do

By Margie Quimpo-Espino

FORMER Central Bank governor Jaime C. Laya set up his own accounting firm in 1986—a time when having worked for the then deposed president was enough to get doors shut in your face by some Marcos-haters.

FIRST JOB

"People shied away," admits the founder of KPMG Philippines Laya Mananghaya & Co. (formerly J.C. Laya and Co. Ltd.). KPMG is an international accounting firm. "It was tough at first. I only had half a dozen clients."

"But you learn about human nature that way," adds the 65-year-old, who retires from his own firm this month and turns over the reins to partner Mario Mananghaya.

Despite the stigma of being in the close circle of former President Ferdinand Marcos, plundering the Philippine economy, Laya had a loyal group of businessmen who became his first clients.

"My very first clients included Philrealty (Walter Brown, Fred Ramos and Gerry Lanuza) and Allied Bank (Lucio Tan and Romy Co), in addition to Ubix Corp. (Edilberto Bravo) and Stanpak Import-Export Corp. (Mariano Lao)," Laya recalls.

People forget

But people forget and the stigma wore off. Today, the accounting firm he founded has 450 people and is one of the largest in the country.

Laya had no plans of working with government and was quite content with life as a University of the Philippines professor.

He entered grade one at age four and graduated magna cum laude in Business Administration major in Accounting at 18. His father was a writer and an English teacher, while his mother taught history. He was the only boy out of four siblings.

As far as he can remember, they have always had a library, which was how he got interested in books. Today, he has an extensive collection of books, paintings and antiques.

Teaching

He stayed in the same job for almost two decades.

"In 1957, just before graduation, I was invited by then Dean Jose Velmonte to join the UP College of Business faculty as Assistant Instructor (monthly salary P245). The pay wasn't too bad—double the minimum wage, which was P4 a day. I was single, living with my family. Bus fare to Diliman was 10 centavos, and lunch was 80 centavos.

"While waiting for classes to start, I decided to attend summer classes in Baguio and enrolled in public speaking (since I was going to teach) and personnel management. I stayed at Patria Inn on Session Road and shared a large room with half a dozen other people, including Jose Ma. Sison who was an incoming freshman," he says.

In 1974, after 18 years of teaching and doing consultancy work, while earning a master's degree in Industrial Management at the Georgia Institute of Technology in 1960 and a Ph.D in Finance from Stanford University in 1965, he was asked to join government.

"I was on the faculty for a dozen years and must have had about 2,000 students along the way, many of whom made names for themselves in business, politics, the professions, the arts, the civil service, both here and abroad," he says.

Joining government

Gerardo Sicat, who used to head the National Economic and Development Authority and some college classmates brought him to President Marcos. Laya recalls he was open to doing consultancy but Marcos had other plans.

"He talked to me for almost an hour and swore me in right there and then," Laya relates. He became a Deputy Director General for policy and planning at Neda in 1974.

That same year, he was made Deputy Governor of the Central Bank. In 1975, he was the Minister of Budget until 1981. That same year, he was appointed CB governor.

At the height of the economic crisis in the early '80s, it was discovered that the books of account of the government did not give a clear picture of the national coffers. Laya was blamed and he offered to resign.

But looking back, he said Marcos told him if he allowed him to resign, he would be eaten alive, so he was made Ministry of Education Culture and Sports, a post he held from 1984 to 1986.

Edsa happened in 1986 and with it, ended his public post.

To this day, Laya subtly defends Marcos and truly believes the man was not a plunderer.

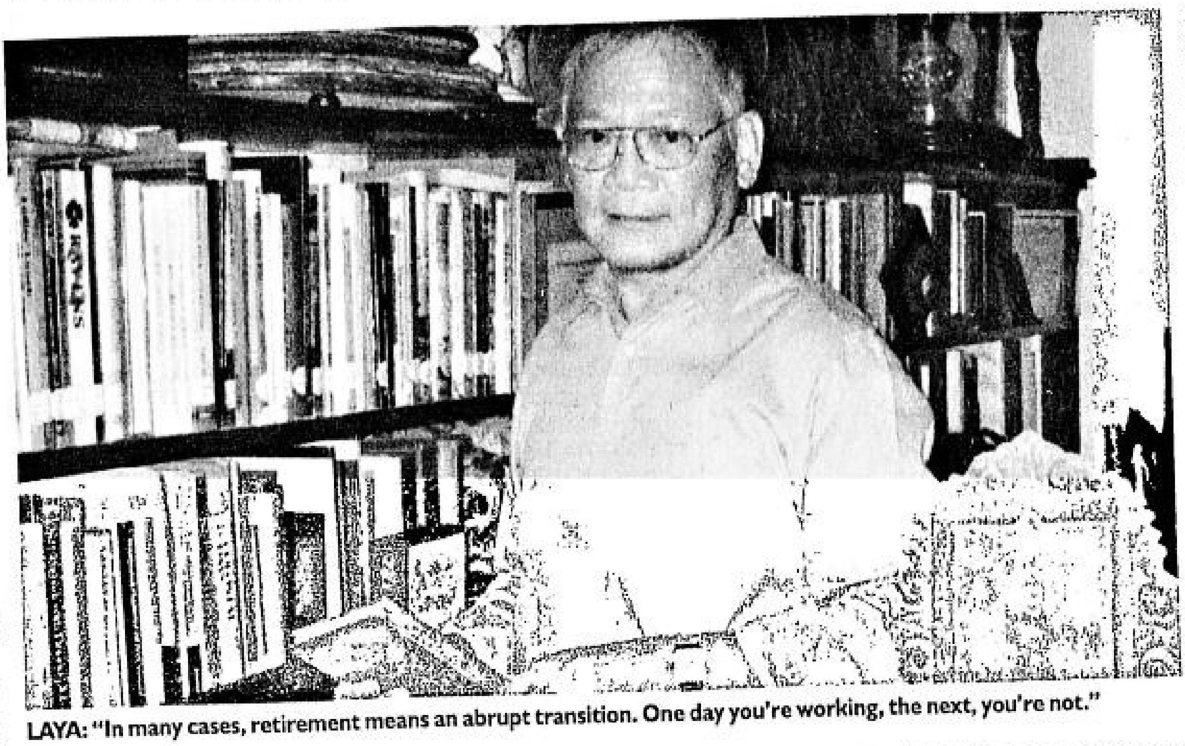
On his career, Laya says "I accomplished more than what I set out to do."

When he was applying for graduate school, one of the questions he had to answer was "What do you plan to become or what are your goals?"

"That set me thinking about what I really wanted to do. I said I wanted to spend a few years teaching, while doing consultancy on the side. I also want to eventually go on my own and set up my own business. And if there was a chance, go into government service."

These goals were written in his applica-

HE ACHIEVED/ B2



LAYA: "In many cases, retirement means an abrupt transition. One day you're working, the next, you're not."

LAYA in his first office at the Solid Mills Bldg. in Makati in 1987.

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Helping small entrepreneurs while making money, too

YOLIE Balmes does not find it odd or surprising that her doctorate credentials now find her operating one of the most organized and professional "tiangges" in the country today. She's not about to rationalize or philosophize about this turn of events that has brought her from the hallowed halls of academe to the rambunctious maze of the "tiangges" that sprout overnight in outdoor "plazas" or in activity areas or trade halls of malls.

All she'd say is: 'I'm in the business of helping small entrepreneurs while making something for myself too."

The '80s saw her as EVP of Lyceum in Batangas and the '90s EVP of Gotesco, where she was the only non-relative of the owners and the only non-Chinese to be recruited to the position of vice president. Balmes holds doctorates in business administration and education both from PWU.

"My years with Gotesco taught me a great deal about retailing and about small entrepreneurs," she says. "The tiangge is a business I know by heart and by experience."

Heart and experience in business, Yolie will be quick to tell you, is not what she's learned with a doctorate.

Since she started her family company Power Heads Inc. in 2001, she now has a dozen tiangge venues in Metro Manila and up north in Pangasinan, with a dozen more before the end of 2004. Notable among these is the "Wow na Wow Night Market" in Intramuros, for which she built the first airconditioned tiangge outside a mall, with amenities like clean toilets and pay telephones. Last December she opened at the Universal Mall (in the former theater) on Rizal Avenue, where Manila Mayor Lito Atienza has developed a bustling strictly pedestrian mall with greenery and bright lights.

Power Heads recently held a bridal fair at SM North Edsa called "Captured Moments of a Lifetime," a bigger reprise of which will take place in May at The Loft of Rockwell in Makati. Other themed exhibits on stream include "Urban Escape," a summer exhibit on March 1-14 at the Robinsons Place in Manila; "She Deserves a Break," featuring girls' wear, on March 2-28 at Robinsons Metro East (Pasig); "Nothing Like the Works of Human Hands," a festival of handmade arts and crafts, on March 5- April 4 also at Robinsons Metro East.

Yolie Balmes has kept her business principles of "concern, compassion and commitment"—her 3C's—to make her exhibitors and employees happy and satisfied. Profit with dignity, she also calls it, however small the profit. But of course, she's not into it in a rush of altruism.

BALMES

She has been batting for these small entrepreneurs, even sticking her neck out for them. When the BIR held a hearing on its plan to classify tiangge operations under underground economy, wherein goods exchange hands without a piece a paper passing between them., and to require tiangge exhibitors to issue receipts and pay VAT, Yolie Balmes was one of a handful of tiangge organizers who were there to support the exhibitors, many of them Muslims, with their presence. But it was only Balmes who dared speak up for them.

PINOY ENTREPRENEUR

She explained to the BIR hearing that tiangge exhibitors are legitimate, but asking them to issue receipts for small transactions of P50 or P100, which is the average cost of many of the merchandise in the tiangges, would be like asking neighborhood sari-sari store owners to issue receipts. And charging them VAT would be quite onerous for them. Moreover, Balmes says, the organizer already pays the government the equivalent of this VAT.

Whether she's right or wrong, all she's trying to do is to assist, maybe even compel, government to define clear-cut rules and regulations that would encourage rather than discourage small entrepreneurs especially in difficult times.

Fast-paced life spurs sales of Christian music and books

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

SINCE the days of the proverbial first parents Adam and Eve, man has been on a relentless search for the answer to the question: "What am I here for?"

The search, however, has never been more desperate as today when the frantic pace of the majority's lifestyle makes even a five-minute silence for personal reflection a luxury.

This partly explains the notable pick-up in the sales of Christian literature and music over the past few years.

Peter O. Pojol, S.J., director of the Jesuit Communications Foundation, tells the INQUIRER that the sales are buoyed by the urgent need by Catholics to make their faith more relevant to their daily lives.

"There are so many nominal Catholics. The faith has no meaning to them, which is what we are trying to address by going to mass media. It is one way of making people see the face of Christ, to hear His voice in our midst," Pojol explains.

Jesuit Communications was started in 1968 by Frs. James Reuter, Paul Brunner and Nim Gonzalez. It was set up to institutionalize the social communications efforts of the Philippine province of the Society of Jesus and it initially produced audiovisual training materials for evangelization.

It started out by selling religious music, particularly those used during the mass. But it has branched out to include contemporary music by Filipino artists that delve on values, culture and socio-political commentaries.

Over the years, it has evolved from being the communications arm of the Philippine province of the Society of Jesus to a support group of the Church's various evangelization and communications requirements.

Jesuit Communications' bestsellers include the compilation of religious songs performed by Bukas Palad and instrumental music to aid in meditation and reflection.

Jesuit Communications also includes books in its list of products, not only prayer books but also books on leadership and values formation. It has published a travel guide (Intramuros), a children's book (The Greatest King) and a number of titles that touch on spirituality.

"There is a real hunger out there for products like these and the good thing about our products is that they are not time bound. They also make ideal gifts," adds Aristotle C. Dy, S.J., director of the Jesuit Music Ministry.

Dy says the widening audience prompted the Jesuit Communications group to put more serious effort into retailing its products.

Its products used to be sold in the Ateneo de Manila University campus and a few small retail outlets but it went mainstream by putting up kiosks in SM North and SM Megamall to reach out to a wider public.

"We are opening at least two more within the year because we see a stable market. We are encouraged when we hear people tell us about how much help our books, CDs and other materials are to them," Pojol says.

In the meantime, Jesuit Communications will continue praying for His guidance in spreading His word through the use of various media.

It is not only Catholics that are going out to buy inspirational materials. So too are Christians, explains Johnny K. Sy, founder and general manager of the House of Praise, which has been in the business of distributing Christian music, including Catholic music, for the past 23 years.

Sy says that the popularity lies in the quality of the songs that it puts out. These, he stresses, appeal to all people looking for something meaningful, regardless of religion.

This helps explain the popularity of songs such as "I Would Be Here", "He Will Carry You", "Heal Our Land" and "Only Hope."

"Christian music is very popular in the US. Here it is still a small niche but it is getting to be more popular," he says.

House of Praise, thus, has been able to expand its network to some 80 branches as of January this year, going up to 90 by the end of the month.

It was not always so easy to sell Christian music. Sy recalls the days in 1980 when he went out to look for Christian music and he couldn't find any.

Sy says it was then that he decided to go into the business himself, believing that there are others like him who are looking for music away from the mainstream, one that "penetrates the heart."

He says it was a slow and difficult start for the company but through God's grace, he was able to grow the network to where it is today. House of Praise has even tapped the franchising mode to further expand its operations.

"We are trying to reach out by offering praise and worship music. Unlike secular music, ours have a longer shelf life and we are doing this as a mission and a response to a calling," operations manager Benjamin Oreta adds.

(ABOVE) Fr. Peter O. Pojol SJ, director of Jesuit Communications. (Left photo) Benjamin Oreta and Johnny K. Sy.

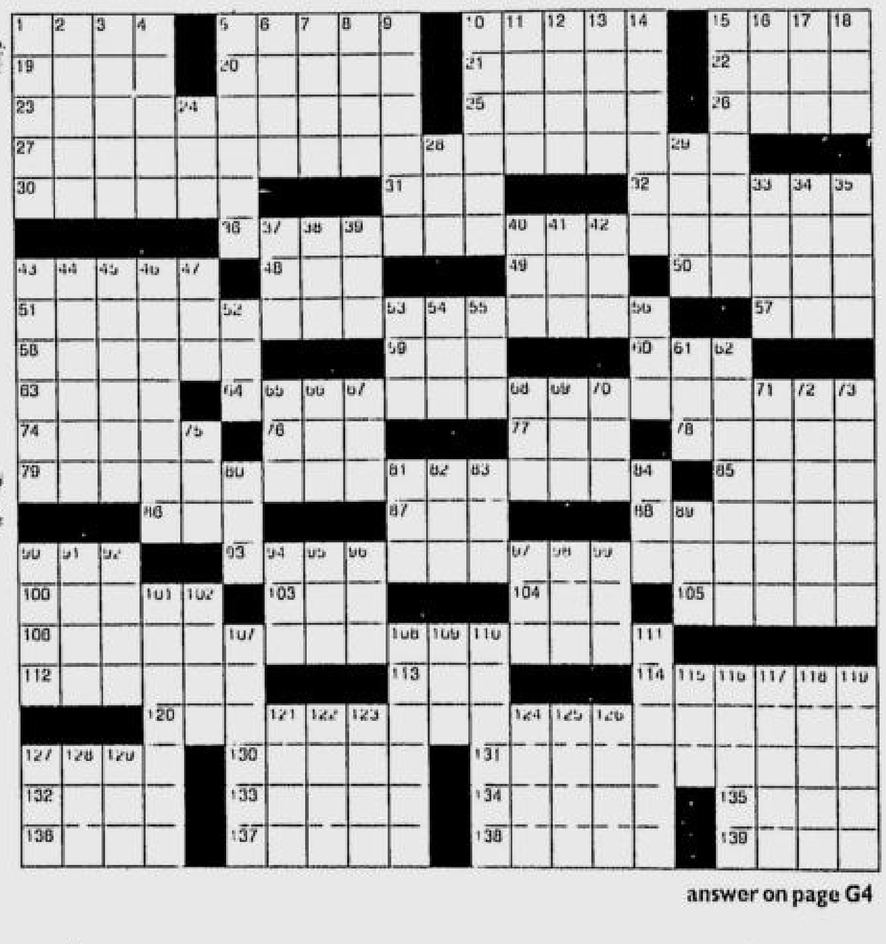
SUNDAY CROSSWORD

PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Donna J. Stone

FRENZY

ACROSS
1 Provo's place
5 Sun-related
10 A ton
15 Folk singer Joan
19 Old alphabet character
20 Relish-tray tidbit
21 The "U" of UHF
22 Wheel support
23 Generic products' lack
25 Martin Van —
26 Jockey's handful
27 Start of a quip
30 More maddening
31 Pothole fil
32 Fancy crowns
36 Part 2 of quip
43 — Field (Colorado Rockies' venue)
48 Ump's cry
49 The way, to Lao-tzu
50 Introduction to physics?
51 Part 3 of quip
57 — Jones Average
58 Mend the inner layer of
59 Brazilian port, briefly
60 Actress Merkel
63 Panache
64 Part 4 of quip
74 Canadian physician Sir William —
76 Mined metal
77 With 133 Across, Death Valley is below it
78 Artist Max
79 Part 5 of quip
85 Paddy product
86 Jacuzzi joint
87 Dadaist Jean
88 Formosa, familiarly
90 Faux —
93 Part 6 of quip
100 Bar legally
103 State south of Penna.
104 Chou En- —
105 Forbidden things
106 Part 7 of quip
112 Kindhearted
113 — -pah-pah
114 Lake that's a source of the Missisippi
120 End of quip
127 Ocean hue
130 Make into law
131 Crossing the street illegally
132 Go up in smoke
133 See 77 Across
134 Brand of fake fat
135 "Prefontaine" star Jared
136 Auctioneer's cry
137 Flat agreement?
138 Like a hoarse voice
139 Word before while

DOWN
1 Citified
2 Muscle-car feature
3 Diarist Nin
4 Painter Matisse
5 Hermosillo's state
6 Patron saint of Norway
7 Like a wet noodle
8 Allege as fact
9 Turns back to zero
10 Outback producer
11 Golf-bag option
12 Longfellow's "The Bell of —"
13 Small remnant
14 Holy places
15 Saloon patrons' running totals
16 Hatchet
17 New Haven Ivy Leaguer
18 Buddhist sect
24 JFK's predecessor
28 Shaggy Tibetan
29 Verdi's slave girl
33 No longer working: Abbr.
34 Dynamic lead-in
35 December downfall
37 Yuletide quaff
38 Pair
39 Off-road truck, briefly
40 To the — degree
41 China's Chiang — -shek
42 Ad — committee
43 Phrase on an envelope
44 Threat ender
45 South Dakota tribe
46 Spoilsports
47 Dismay a deity
52 Keanu's role in "The Matrix"
53 Afore
54 Overflow point
55 "Holy cow!"
56 "What'd you say?"
61 Hot off the press
62 Explorer Vespucci
65 Watch pocket
66 "Quattro" minus "uno"
67 "Isn't — bit like you and me?" ("Nowhere Man" lyric)
68 Bat wood
69 Visualize
70 Catch some rays
71 "Star Wars" character — Kenobi
72 Trig function
73 Fads
75 Dem.'s rival
80 Smidgen
81 Bodily pouch
82 Refrain syllable
83 Typing speed abbr.
84 From — Z
89 As well as
90 Nuisance
91 ". . . even — speak"
92 Ollie's sidekick
94 "Gross!"
95 Forum farewell
96 "Way cool!"
97 "Slippery" tree
98 Flat-fixing org.
99 "— Abner"
101 Veteran
102 "Not guilty," e.g.
107 "1984" novelist
108 Flute sound
109 Sweetie
110 Key with four sharps
111 Church chant
115 The Everly Brothers' "— I Kissed You"
116 Bracelet site
117 Aspen athlete
118 Dollar divisions
119 Jargon
121 Patella's place
122 It covered Pompeii
123 Frosts
124 "The Lion King" lioness
125 Colorants
126 Even trade
127 Sit-ups tone them
128 Status —
129 WWW addr.



answer on page G4

He achieved more than he set out to do

From page B1

tion form in 1959. Forty-five years later, Laya looks back at his life and sees he has accomplished all that he wrote.

His childhood dream was to be a farmer. This, he will soon achieve when he pursues his agricultural exploits in the land his parents left him. His mother bought property whenever she had extra income. He plans to develop these now.

Although he knows he can still put in a good number of years in his firm, he says he abides by the rule he himself made—mandated retirement at 65 "to make way for other people."

"I am glad about my retirement. The thing I like about it is the fact that I am no longer responsible for an organization. That is such a big load—worrying about people. Accounting is more difficult now because of the new regulations prompted by the Enron case."

Laya lost his wife, Alice, in the 1991 earthquake that struck the country and killed thousands. His wife was then staying at the Hyatt Baguio Terraces Hotel, which collapsed.

He never remarried. His four children are all abroad pursuing higher education. Last month, he spent two weeks in Spain where his daughter and her family stay. Laya has two grandchildren.

"I want to do more NGO work, oversee the development of family properties and spend more time playing with my two grandchildren," he says.

"Retirement is one of those milestones that people tend to set—first day of school, first communion, graduation, first job. In many cases, retirement means an abrupt transition. One day you're working, the next, you're not. That actually happened to me in February 1986. One day I was busy, the next I was jobless. It was traumatic, having an empty calendar. It's different this time. In recent years, I've been doing a combination of jobs—consultant, managerial (head of an auditing firm), director of corporations, civic work, association work, etc.

It's a matter of doing less of some and more of others. No more managerial work, but continued/more consulting, independent directorships, civic work, entrepreneurship (property development), look after my investments more closely, and so on. I also intend to get to know my family (two grandchildren) better and read the books I've always wanted to read. Better to retire while still reasonably mobile and still with tolerable sight, hearing and digestion."

WITH then US Ambassador Hubbard and John Clarke, 1996.

DURING the inauguration of J.C. Laya & Co. Ltd. on April 16, 1986.

Turning sweat shirts and old shoes into high-end fashion

By Margie Quimpo-Espino

ADIDAS marketing head Angelica Suiza, president and managing director John P. Alonte Jr., GM for sales Bing P. Paras and chief finance officer MJ Chavez.

ATHLETES used to be kidded about being sloppily dressed individuals who lived and slept in their sweat suits.

But times change and athletes are now admired for their fashion sense. Thanks to the sports brands that beat each other getting the endorsement of these individuals and making sure their celebrities look good. The grubby sweat pants has been elevated to vogue garb. And the sports bag is no longer a mere container of wet towels and stinky shoes.

But what about the non-athletes who still want to dress the part without sweating it?

Adidas saw the huge market potential of these trends and created a strategy that involves capturing a bigger market and immortalizing clothes and shoes worn by great athletes of decades ago into high-end fashion wear. And people all over the world, including the Philippines, are paying the price for these.

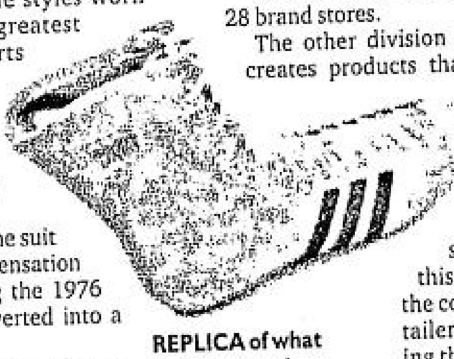
Although known worldwide for its three stripes, Adidas is probably the brand one which sports three logos—one to represent a market segment it seeks to cement a relationship with.

The ultimate goal is to sell more. And continue dressing the athletes market even if they are no longer pursuing the rigorous lifestyle they used to.

GERN Muller Star is believed to be the first colored football shoe made since the mid-70s. To be available at Shoe Salon.

"To meet these rapidly developing consumer needs, and to continue to deliver the promise of being Forever Sport, Adidas recently aligned and renamed its three divisions in accordance with consumers' primary buying motivations," Adidas Philippines Inc. marketing director Angelica Suiza says.

One way Adidas is trying to do this is by epitomizing some of the styles worn by some of the world's greatest athletes under its Sports Heritage Division in a line called "Originals." Its slogan is "once innovative, now classic, always authentic."



REPLICA of what boxing legend Muhammad Ali wore until 1967.

This division carries the suit worn by gymnastics sensation Nadia Comaneci during the 1976 Olympics which it converted into a shirt.

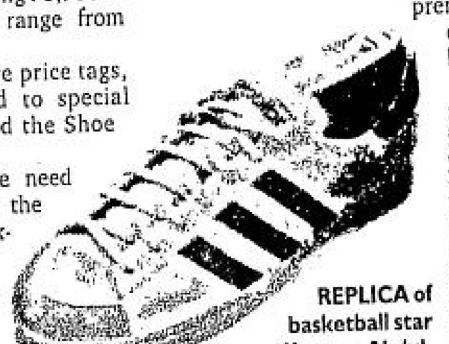
"We try to use materials as close to the originals as possible."

The line, however, carries a steep price tag with shoes costing P3,700 to P15,000 a pair; bags range from P6,000 to P7,000.

As it carries exclusive price tags, distribution is limited to special boutiques like MIX and the Shoe Salon.

"This is because we need good space to display the products," Suiza explains.

Its main line is the Sport Performance Division which is geared toward the needs of athletes. This is where most of their latest technology fall under. It is structured into five main categories—running, basketball, football, tennis and training.



REPLICA of basketball star Kareem Abdul-Jabbar's shoes in the '70s.

Its slogan is "Engineered to perform."

This line is distributed in 271 outlets with 28 brand stores.

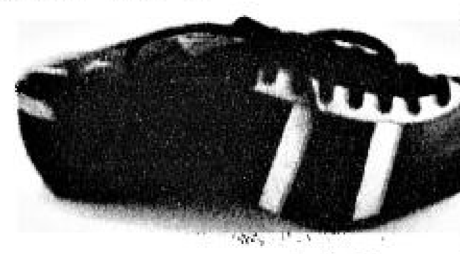
The other division is Sport Style which creates products that are "simply unexpected." This is where the Y-3 designs of Japanese designer Yohji Yamamoto fall under. Suiza says products under this division are not yet in the country but there are retailers interested in bringing them in.

Shoes here can go as high as P20,000. Adidas is in talks with key retailers of premium lifestyle products on the possibility of bringing the line here.

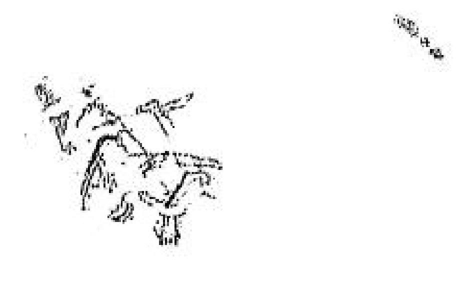
Adidas used to be made and distributed in the Philippines by Rubberworld Phils. Inc. It was then targeting the lower-end market. Two years ago, the German principals of the company created a new management team headed by John P. Alonte Jr. as president and managing director. John had been with Warner Bros.

"As sports itself evolves and as our consumers develop a new definition of what sport means to them, so too must and will we evolve.

"For example, as a sport evolves beyond purely athletic pursuits to include a way of life, a lifestyle, we must be there and we must be there in a way that is true to our brand," Suiza says.



REPLICA of what running star Jessie Owens wore in the 1936 Berlin Olympics where he won four gold medals.



THE NADJA tee launched under Adidas' Spring/Summer collection this year. To be sold in MIX.

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Editor **Aries Espinosa**

Reinvent, create, live

ROCKWELL Land Corp has added to its list of posh project developments, Joya at Rockwell- a twin tower residential condominium located at the east side of Rockwell Center, the prime self-contained community located right in the heart of Makati.

Joya consists of two high-rise residential towers, the North and the South, with 46 stories and 44 stories respectively. Architects Willie V. Cosculluella and Hart Howerton of San Francisco are responsible for the sheer elegance and beauty of these high-rise condominiums. The masterminds behind the artful interior are Guillermo J. Valdez of California, Arlen P. De Guzman Design Associates and Erfe & Associates.

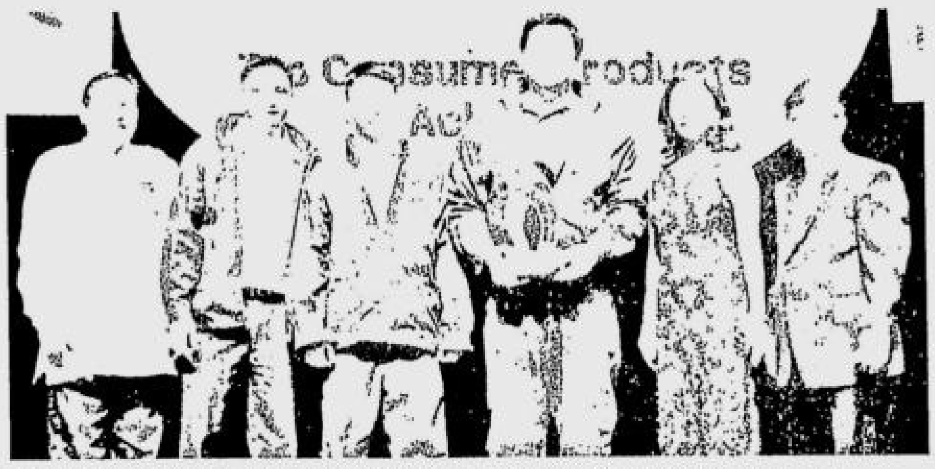
In a class of its own, Joya towers offer one, two and three bedroom units that come with hardwood floors, built-in modular wardrobe cabinets for the bedrooms, imported floor tiles for the kitchens, modular kitchen cabinet system, imported floor tiles and stone vanity countertop for the bathrooms. Provisions for cable TV, two telephone lines and water heater connections are also included.

As its pièce de résistance, Joya unveils the ultimate living space: the lofts. These are sold bare, a rare characteristic found in urban high-rise structures. Available in one-bedroom and two-bedroom units, the lofts are an artist's dream come true. Unit owners are given a free hand at the over all concept and design of their loft. You can create your own haven by adding in your own version of a staircase, ceiling or bedroom. Joya at Rockwell provides you with your very own canvass. The entire picture will depend on how far your imagination and creativity will go.

In addition to this, Rockwell's latest development boasts of its varied recreational amenities: outdoor swimming pools in a tropical landscape setting, a children's playground and sundeck areas, a club room with a view of the pool, a games and billiards room, a two story gym and fitness center, badminton and multipurpose courts.

As if all these features weren't enough, Joya at Rockwell has in tow a retail row of the finest shopping and culinary establishments, giving the residents easy access to especially handpicked shops. Inspired by the chic Santana Row in San Jose, California and its string upon string of fanciful and novel establishments, Rockwell has put a fresh meaning to the term "East Side." Modern and hip, not only is Joya's retail row a refreshing sight for the discriminating eye, but is also a distinctive attribute that sets it apart from all other vertical developments in Rockwell.

Just like the artist it was named after, Joya is a master. Reinvent... create... live!



UNIOIL WINS TOP RETAIL GAS PRODUCTS BRAND OF THE YEAR

At the 2003 Year-Ender Excellence Awards held at the AFP Theater last Jan. 29, Unioil Petroleum Philippines Inc was duly recognized for its commitment to promoting product and service excellence, while safeguarding the environment. Accepting the award (from left) is network manager PJ Nery, business manager Brian Kho and general manager for retail Chito Medina-Cue.

CHAMBER OF THRIFT BANK'S ANNUAL CONVENTION

The 2004 new set of officers and directors of the Chamber of Thrift Banks (CTB) recently paid a courtesy call to Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas Governor Rafael Buenaventura to mark the start of a series of activities leading up to the chamber's annual convention. In photo (from left) are Aurelio Montinola III (BPI Savings Bank), director; Dionisio Ong (Asiatrust Development Bank), director; Lolita Simpao (Bataan Savings and Loan Banks), auditor; Rodulfo Besinga (Philippine Business Bank), director; Evangeline Escobillo (Anchor Savings Bank), director; Tomas Clemente Jr. (Luzon Development Bank), president; BSP Gov. Buenaventura; Ma. Flordelis Aguenza (Planters Development Bank) secretary; Suzanne Figueras (Insular Savings Bank), director; Belen Castro (Premiere Bank), treasurer; Susan Felix, CTB executive director; Rogelio Florete (Queen City Development Bank), director. Carrying the theme 'Promoting an Enabling Environment for Thrift Banks,' the convention is slated on March 11 at the Dusit Hotel Nikko in Makati City.

STI offers 1, 000 scholarship grants

THE GROWING number of out-of-school youth in the country today brings further predicament to our government as it may result into more unemployment. One of the main causes of this is the worsening financial capability of the average Filipino family, whose expenses still focus on the basic household needs.

To address this problem, private institutions are jointly pooling their resources to help the government. One such institution is STI, the country's largest college network, through its annual scholarship grants that aim to provide quality education to needy yet deserving students.

STI will award more than 1,000 scholarship grants to qualified high school graduates for school year 2004-2005. A special exam period, dubbed as the "STI National Scholarship Week", was held from Monday to Saturday, Feb. 23-28.

Resty Bundoc, STI Manager, said students can avail of discounts to help their parents in paying for their college education. Bundoc related STI is committed to quality IT and IT-enhanced education for its students. This coming school year, STI will offer new IT-enhanced courses as well as a job placement assistance program for its graduates as part of its Enrollment to Employment System (E2E System).

The STI National Scholarship Week was held until Feb. 28. Exam results will be posted in different STI schools beginning April 1. For more information, interested students can inquire at the nearest STI branch in their area.

BLUE CROSS LEADS INNOVATION IN MEDICAL INSURANCE

Blue Cross, the leading provider of medical and travel insurance in the country today, recently launched its newest medical insurance products - Select Access and Blue Royale Premier-Gold. The Grand Launch of Select Access and Blue Royale Premier-Gold was held at the Rockwell Club, Makati. Celebrity endorser Jackie Lou Blanco (shown in photo) graced the event together with Blue Cross brokers and agents, and various media representatives. For more information on Blue Cross products and services, call 899-8001 or log on to www.bluecross.com.ph.

Panasonic Thinknology winners

APRIL Charlotte Andal, a grade VI student from St. Bridget's College, Batangas City and Marielle Fuentes, a grade III pupil from Comembo Elementary School in Makati City have emerged as grand prize winners in the recently concluded Panasonic-Department of Education "Thinknology On-the-Spot Idea Writing" Contest.

The two took home the grand prize after competing with 32 other grade school students from public and private schools nationwide.

Other winners are: category A (grade I-III) Anielle S. Militante, St. There Child Development Center (Tacloban City), 2nd place; and Humility M. Javier, Precious Minds Montessori Center (Pangasinan), 3rd place.

For category B (grade IV-VI), the winners include: Rochelle Ann Rodriguez, Small World Christian School (Baguio City), 2nd place;

Kerstin Mary Mutya E. Collander, Ormoc City Central Sped Center (Ormoc City), 3rd place.

The contest, a project of Matsushita Electric Philippines Corporation (Mepco), in coordination with DepEd, aimed at developing the skills and capabilities of elementary students through creative writing, as well as promoting technologies that are environment-friendly.

It was also conceptualized to promote the school children's appreciation of the role of the electric and electronic industry in our daily lives along with the country's pursuit of economic growth and global competitiveness.

For the 1st place winners, they were ably to get P50,000 each plus a trophy, P5,000 for the coach and P8,000 plus a Panasonic volored TV for their respective schools.

The second place winners were able to receive P25,000 each plus a trophy; P4,000 plus a trophy for their coaches and P8,000 and a Panasonic colored TV for their respective schools.

For the third placers, they received P15,000 each plus a trophy; P3,000 plus a trophy for their respective coaches and P5,000 and Panasonic colored TV for their schools.

AHEAD OFFERS DISCOUNTS ON COLLEGE REVIEW

Ahead Tutorial & Review Center is now accepting students for its college entrance test review courses. Early enrollees and referrals will be given special rates and discounts. The discount for students who enroll in the review program from January to February is as much as P3,500. While those who refer two of their friends to any of Ahead's review programs can get P500 worth of gift certificates and a P500 rebate on their tuition. Each succeeding referral will entitle clients to a cash rebate of P500. Ahead's test-based reviews have helped thousands of students get into the universities of their choice. Its review students have consistently registered the highest passing percentage in the Ateneo, La Salle and UP college entrance test since 1995. For questions about the review courses, call Ahead at 426-0334 to 36.

Clips

World-class furniture at Greenhills

TOURISTS and foreign visitors looking for Philippine made furniture and furnishings can visit the 11th Annual National Furniture, Furnishing and Fashion Fair which will be held from March 5 to 28 at the Greenhills Shopping Complex. They can also buy here other world-class Philippine products. The 24-day trade fair is organized by Prime Asia Trade Planners and Convention Organizers (Patepco). Manufacturers, exporters/importers, dealers, suppliers, distributors and other traders can join. Interested parties can contact Patepco at 826-8162/820-3862.

14th Bear Brand Kitefest

THE 14TH Bear Brand Kitefest will visit General Santos on March 7, Palawan on March 14, Tacloban on March 21, Cagayan de Oro on March 28, Kalibo on April 4, Baguio on April 18 and Manila on April 25. Attractive cash prizes, trophies and Nestle gift packs await the winners. Interested parties must bring valid identification and register on the site from 7 to 9 a.m. Participants from the elementary, high school and college division are requested to present valid school IDs while participants for the adults division are requested to present a valid community tax certificate.

Marco Polo gold mine

NATIONAL Geographic Channel's "Marco Polo: The China Mystery Revealed", a three-part series on Marco Polo's journey to China premiere's on March 7, 14 and 21 at 9 p.m. In the series, famed National Geographic photographer Michael Yamashita used Marco Polo's book, "The Description of the World", as a travel guide, as he traces the footsteps of the great explorer and gathers new evidence on the mystery surrounding Marco Polo's adventure.

'The Great Family Picnic'

TODAY, the Ayala Greenfield Estates will be celebrating a day-long event, 'The Great Family Picnic'. This marks the launch of several new amenities in the Calamba, Laguna-situated subdivision, which is the only authentic rising golfing community in the country. Several activities for the whole family will enable everyone to enjoy its relaxing and fun-oriented Nature Park and Village Clubhouse. For further details about the event, call 848-5000.

QCDSI transfer of authority

THE QUEZON City Dental Society Inc, the premier chapter of the Philippine Dental Association, will hold the President's Night tonight at the Edsa Shangri-La Hotel from 6 p.m. onwards. The affair highlights the transfer of authority from incumbent president and honorary chair Dr. Raul S.L. Resurrecion to the overall chair and incoming president Dr. Flor S. Enriquez. PRC associate commissioner Dr. Leonor Tripon Rosero will be the keynote and inducting officer to administer the oath of office to the incoming officers of the year 2004-2005. For information, contact Dr. Flor Enriquez at 926-4526 or 456-0590

RMMFI HANDS SEED MONEY FOR RMAF PROJECTS

Ramon Magsaysay Memorial Foundation Inc (RMMFI) officials recently gathered with the past and present trustees of the Ramon Magsaysay Award Foundation (RMAF) for the turnover of a cheque donation of P600,000. RMMFI chair Conrado Estrella is shown turning the cheque to RMAF chair Randy David (in jacket). The donation will assist RMAF in planning for a Magsaysay Greatness of Spirit Museum and Magsaysay Award Resource Center to celebrate three milestones in 2007-2008: the centenary of the late President, and the golden anniversaries of the Foundation and the Magsaysay Award. Past RMAF chairs in attendance are (background, from left) Vitaliano Nañagas Jr., Bienvenido Tan Jr., Deogracias Vistan, Jaime Zobel de Ayala, and Frisco San Juan. Also witnessing the event are (foreground, from left) RMMFI directors Nandy Pacheco, Senator Ramon Magsaysay Jr., Dr. Tranquilino Elicaño (President), and Mila Magsaysay-Valenzuela. They are joined by RMAF trustees, Cayetano Paderanga Jr., Jim Paredes, and new trustees Dr. Cythia Rose Bautista and Fr. Bobby Perez.

Product FILES

20% Bonus Load for new touch mobile subscribers

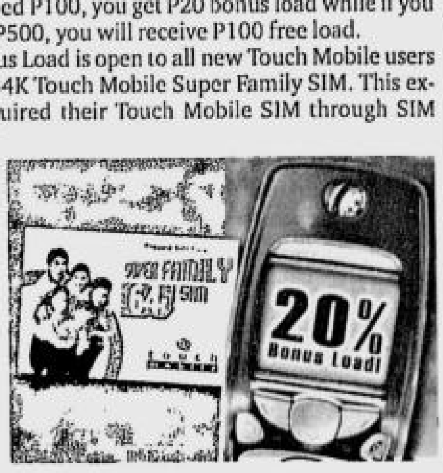
TOUCH Mobile, the family-oriented mobile network brand, gives you another great value deal that's sure to let you stay in touch with family and friends more often.

From Feb. 25 to May 25, Touch Mobile will give an additional 20 percent Bonus Load to new Touch Mobile users when they reload within 15 days of activating their sim.

Touch Mobile subscribers eligible for the bonus load will receive an advisory text message inviting them to reload their cellphones, from as little as P25 to as much as P500, within fifteen (15) days upon receiving the advisory message. Upon their first reloading within the prescribed period, Touch Mobile subscribers will get a corresponding 20 percent Bonus Load depending on the amount reloaded. If you reloaded P100, you get P20 bonus load while if you reload a maximum of P500, you will receive P100 free load.

The 20 percent Bonus Load is open to all new Touch Mobile users who purchased their 64K Touch Mobile Super Family SIM. This excludes those who acquired their Touch Mobile SIM through SIM swap.

What are you waiting for? Switch to Touch Mobile today, get your first reload before May 25, and get a 20 percent Bonus Load. Now you can call and text your loved ones more often with your bonus load.



DRIVE ALL THE WAY WITH HYUNDAI TOP 5 TEST DRIVE

Hyundai Asia Resources Inc (Hari) recently held its successful Hyundai Top-5 Test Drive, which was widely attended by over a hundred guests and auto enthusiasts. Seen at the photo are (from left) Francis Robert Ang, manager, dealer development department; S.N. Lee, general manager Asia - Pacific regional headquarters; Ma. Fe Agudo, managing director; Cecil Capacete, sales planning and distribution manager; Eduardo Sta Agueda, head dealer, operations and warranty section; Alfredo Jose Jr., national service manager; and Allan Dy Sr., marketing services manager

Republic of the Philippines

COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS

Manila

EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL EN BANC MEETING OF THE COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS HELD ON 13 FEBRUARY 2004

Present:

Chairman Benjamin S. Abalos, Sr.
Commissioner Rufino S.B. Javier
Commissioner Mehol K. Sadain
Commissioner Resurreccion Z. Borra
Commissioner Florentino A. Tuason, Jr.
Commissioner Virgilio O. Garcillano
Commissioner Manuel A. Barcelona, Jr.

xxx xxx xxx

04-0071. IN THE MATTER OF THE LISTS OF PRESIDENTIAL, VICE-PRESIDENTIAL AND SENATORIAL CANDIDATES IN THE MAY 10, 2004 ELECTIONS WHO COMPLIED AND THOSE WHO FAILED TO COMPLY WITH COMELEC RESOLUTION NO. 6486 REQUIRING THEM TO SUBMIT THEIR DRUG TEST RESULTS

This pertains to the various Memoranda from the Law Department, submitting the lists of the Presidential, Vice-Presidential and Senatorial candidates in the forthcoming May 10, 2004 elections who complied and those who failed to comply with Comelec Resolution No. 6486 requiring them to submit their drug test results.

The following are the candidates who submitted their drug test results in compliance with Resolution No. 6486:

FOR PRESIDENT:

1. Arroyo, Gloria Macapagal
2. Poe, Fernando, Jr./Ronald Allan K.
3. Lacson, Panfilo M.
4. Gil, Eddie C.
5. Villanueva, Eduardo C.
6. Roco, Raul S.

FOR VICE-PRESIDENT:

1. De Castro, Noli L.
2. Legarda, Loren B.
3. Aquino, Herminio S.

FOR SENATOR:

1. Biazon, Rodolfo G.
2. Bong Revilla, Ramon, Jr. B.
3. Chavez, Frank I.
4. Joson, Eduardo Nonato N.
5. Roxas, Mar Manuel A.
6. Lapid, Manuel M.
7. Ernie, Juan P.
8. Padilla, Carlos M.
9. Defensor-Santiago, Miriam
10. Pagunuran, Iderlina P.
11. Mauricio, Melanio Jr. L.,
12. Herrera, Ernesto F.
13. Gordon, Richard J.
14. Ilarde, Edgar U.
15. Mercado, Orlando S.
16. Roa, Ma. Elisa "Boots" A.
17. Maceda, Ernesto M.
18. Dilangalen, Didagen P.
19. Madrigal, Jamby A.S.
20. Cayetano, Pilar Juliana S.
21 Tatad, Francisco S.
22. Del Mundo, Gerardo A.
23. Jaworski, Robert S.
24. Rasul, Amina T.
25. Hussin, Farouk S.
26. Fajardo, El Cid C.
27. Usop, Matuan A.
28. Belmonte, Eloica C.
29. Crisologo, Jose Floro P.
30. Barbers, Robert Z.
31. Estulta, Arturo V.
32. Decampong, Pandatun M.
33. Alvarez, Heherson T.
34. Coo, Olivia G.
35. Montaño, Ramon E.

"Submitted official receipt No. 1161100 dated February 09, 2004, issued by the Dangerous Drugs Board for drug test conducted, the result of which will be submitted three (3) days later.

The following are the Candidates who failed to comply with Resolution No. 6486, requiring all candidates for National positions to submit their drug test results:

FOR VICE-PRESIDENT:

1. Pajo, Rodolfo T.

FOR SENATOR:

1. Gatmaytan, Nicanor Jr., B.
2. Ramos, Cristina M.
3. Sonza, Jose Y.
4. Yasay, Perfecto Jr., R.
5. Almirante, Alvin Alvincent G.
6. Chavez, Melchor G.
7. Lozano, Oliver O.
8. Nueva, Norma
9. Estrada, Jinggoy E.
10. Lim, Alfredo S.
11. Pimentel, Aquilino Q.
12. Escudero, Sonny III H.
13. Aparri, Ismael D.
14. Pilapil, Pilar V.
15. Osmeña, John R.

The Commission **RESOLVED**, as it hereby **RESOLVES**, to **NOTE** the foregoing Lists of Presidential, Vice-Presidential and Senatorial Candidates in the forthcoming May 10, 2004 elections who submitted their drug test results in compliance with Comelec Resolution No. 6486 and including those candidates who failed to comply with said resolution.

Let the Education and Information Department cause the publication of this resolution in two (2) newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines.

SO ORDERED.

BENJAMIN S. ABALOS, SR.
Chairman

RUFINO S.B. JAVIER
CommissionerCommissioner

MEHOL K. SADAIN

RESURRECCION Z. BORRA
Commissioner

FLORENTINO A. TUASON, JR.
Commissioner

VIRGILIO O. GARCILLANO
Commissioner

MANUEL A. BARCELONA, JR.
Commissioner

(PDI – March 7, 2004)

HCM bags 9th national tech contest

HONDA Cars Makati (HCM) triumphantly set another record by once again grabbing the gold at the 9th National Technician Contest recently held in San Pablo City. Honda Cars Makati won its first gold during the 2nd National Technician Competition held 1995.

Organized by Honda Cars Philippines, Inc. (HCPI), 17 technicians from 16 Honda Cars dealers nationwide vied for technical knowledge and skills supremacy.

Al C. Brijuega Honda Cars Makati warranty processor, topped 16 contenders in all categories of the competition, first runner up John P. Badion of Honda Cars Pangasinan and Manuel M. Mercado, Honda Cars Pasig's workshop supervisor followed closely at second runner up.

After qualifying in the rigid theoretical "pre-qualifying test," the top 2 technicians will represent Honda Cars Philippines in the 8th Asia and Oceania Technician Contest in 2004.

Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF ZAMBOANGA DEL NORTE
PROVINCIAL GENERAL SERVICES OFFICE
Provincial Capitol, Dipolog City
Tel.# (065) 212-3561 Telefax # (065) 212-6492
E-Mail : znpgso@mozcom.com
Website : zamboangadelnorte.gov.ph

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The provincial government thru the Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) hereby invites manufacturers, suppliers and or distributors to apply for Eligibility and to Bid for the supply of goods categorized as follows:

	Approved Budget for the Contract
a) Construction/Electrical Materials	Php22,000,000.00
b) Spare Parts/Automotive Supplies	6,000,000.00
c) Agricultural Supplies and Equipment	1,000,000.00
d) Drugs/Medicines	12,000,000.00
e) Medical/Laboratory/Dental Supplies	8,000,000.00
f) Office Supplies	600,000.00

Schedule of Activities:	Date	Time
1. Submission of Eligibility Requirements	March 8-15, 2004	
2. Issuance of Bid Documents	March 8-15, 2004	
3. Pre-Bid Conference	March 16, 2004	10:00 A.M.
4. Opening of Bids		
a) Construction/Electrical Materials	March 29, 2004	10:00 A.M.
b) Spare Parts	March 29, 2004	10:00 A.M.
c) Agricultural Supplies and Equipment	March 29, 2004	10:00 A.M.
d) Drugs/Medicines	March 30, 2004	10:00 A.M.
e) Medical/Laboratory/Dental Supplies	March 30, 2004	10:00 A.M.
f) Office Supplies	March 30, 2004	10:00 A.M.

All activities shall be held at the Provincial General Services Office, Capitol Building, Dipolog City, unless announced otherwise.

Interested parties may inquire from the Secretariat-Bids and Awards Committee, Provincial General Services Office (PGSO), Capitol Building, Dipolog City regarding eligibility requirements. Only Eligible suppliers who will be notified by fax or mail shall be issued the Bid Document upon payment of a non-refundable amount of Five Hundred (Php500.00) Pesos.

The government reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any defects or informalities found therein or to accept the offer found to be most advantageous to the government.

(Sgd.) **ELIZABETH G. BARBASO**
Provincial General Services Officer
Chairman-Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI–March 7, 2004)

Philippine Overseas Employment Administration

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Labor & Employment
POEA Bldg. Ortigas Avenue Cor. EDSA Mandaluyong City 1501
P.O. Box 175 Greenhills San Juan, Metro Manila
Tel. 7221144 • 7221155 • E-mail: info@poea.gov.ph
Website: www.poea.gov.ph

GOVERNING BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 2

Series of 2004

WHEREAS, realizing the need to provide better protection to Filipino workers being deployed to Iraq, Governing Board Resolution No. 11, series of 2003, was issued on 23 December 2003 requiring all employers/principals of Iraq-bound Filipino workers to provide additional life and accident insurance in the amount of two hundred thousand (P200,000.00) at no cost to the workers;

WHEREAS, the said resolution directed POEA to conduct an immediate review of the adequacy of the insurance coverage comparable to the package provided to other nationalities working in Iraq;

WHEREAS, our coordinating Labor Attaché for Iraq and Kuwait has recommended to require employers to also provide every landbased Filipino worker they hire for Iraq a minimum global and all risk insurance coverage of $35,000.00.

WHEREAS, there is a need to amend GBR No. 11, series of 2003, to implement the additional protection package for our Iraq-bound landbased workers;

NOW, THEREFORE, the POEA Governing Board, in a meeting duly convened hereby resolves to amend Governing Board Resolution No. 11, series of 2003, by requiring all employers/principals of Iraq-bound landbased Filipino workers to provide a minimum global and all risk insurance coverage in the amount of $35,000.00, in addition to the P200,000 life and accident insurance coverage, at no cost to the workers.

The POEA shall issue the appropriate guidelines to implement this Resolution.

Done in the City of Mandaluyong, this 20th of February 2004.

(Sgd.) **MANUEL G. IMSON**
Undersecretary of Labor and Employment
and Designated Chairman of the Governing Board

(Sgd.) **GREGORIO S. OCA**
Member

(Sgd.) **ALEXIS P. CRUEL**
Member

(Sgd.) **ISIDRO Q. ALIGADA**
Member

(Sgd.) **GUILLERMINA T. GABOR**
Member

(Sgd.) **ROSALINDA DIMAPILIS-BALDOZ**
Member

(PDI–March 7, 2004)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

This is to inform the public that the following persons are no longer connected with **INTERNATIONAL QUALITY MANPOWER SERVICES, INC. (I.Q.MAN).**

1. Loida M. Almazan	effective 13-Feb-04
2. Carina T. Menil	effective 12-Feb-04
3. Rolly L. Alviar	effective 31-Jan-04
4. Jessie-lou P. Miguel	effective 23-Jan-04

All transactions entered into by the persons stated above for and in behalf of the company from the said dates shall no longer be honored.

(For POEA purposes only)

(PDI–March 7, 2004)

BAGUIO WATER DISTRICT

"WE SERVE"

INVITATION TO PREQUALIFY AND TO BID

The Baguio Water District is inviting interested well drilling contractors with PCAB license having Well Drilling Works classification with minimum size range of Small B to submit their respective pre-qualification statements (PRE-C) for the drilling of production wells at various places in Baguio City.

The drilling rig to be utilized must have the following minimum requirements:

1. Capable of air rotary and down the hole hammer drilling method
2. Capable of borehole drilling with diameter of 17-1/2" at a depth of 150 meters.
3. Air compressor must have a minimum capacity of 1,000 CFM x 350 psi
4. With Official Receipt and Certificate of Registration for the drilling rig to be used if owned by the owner or Lease of Contract if the rig will be rented.

Interested contractors may obtain pre-qualification forms and bid documents at a nominal non-refundable fee of P1,500.00 from the BAC secretariat, BWD Office, Utility Rd., Baguio City not later than March 19, 2004.

BWD reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, waive any informalities in the bids received and accept bids most advantageous to the District.

BWD BAC-Projects

(PDI-March 7 & 14, 2004)

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CDC
CLARK DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
Clark Development Corporation

IMMEDIATE HIRING

Clark Development Corporation is urgently in need of applicants for the following positions under the Legal and Constracts Administration Department (LCAD):

I. LEGAL OFFICER (1)

Minimum Qualification Requirements:

1. Filipino citizen, between 25-35 years old, of good health and character
2. Licensed Lawyer, at least one (1) year experience in the practice of law (litigation and corporate practice)
3. Computer literate
4. Proficient in the English language, both written and oral
5. With analytical capability, hardworking and can work under pressure
6. Can work under minimal supervision

II. SR. LEGAL OFFICER (1)

Minimum Qualification Requirements:

1. Filipino citizen, between 35-45 years old, of good health and character
2. Licensed Lawyer, at least two (2) years experience in the practice of law (litigation and corporate practice)
3. Computer Literate
4. Proficient in the English language, both written and oral
5. With analytical capability, hardworking and can work under pressure
6. Must be able to supervise a team or unit
7. Can work under minimal supervision

Interested applicants may submit the following to Human Resources Department, Planning, Recruitment and Placement Section Bldg. 2127, 3rd Floor, cor. E. Quirino and C.P. Garcia Sts., Clark Special Economic Zone, Pampanga:

1. Biodata with 2"x2" pictures
2. Transcript of Records
3. Diploma
4. Certificate of Admission to the Bar and Rollo Number
5. Certificates of Employment
6. Certificates of Training
7. Clearances: Barangay
   Police

For more inquiries, please call: (045) 599-9000 loc. 533 and/or 535.

CDC-HRD

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

TO ALL DELINQUENT MEMBERS OF SUBIC BAY GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB, Inc.

Names:

1. Nestor Ching
2. Alfredo Cruz
3. Jacqueline De Lucia
4. Arsenio Tanco
5. Patrich Tanco
6. Victor Villavicencio
7. Delfine Villaruel
8. Asuncion Rush
9. Pedro Guste
10. Carol Teodoro
11. Rosauro Zaragoza
12. Victorio Dionisio
13. Isidro Sales
14. Antonio Benavides
15. Johnson Go
16. Rigor Rivero
17. Jolly Ting
18. Alice Soltto
19. Luth Fernandez
20. Benito Soliven
21. Alberto Mallari
22. Ramon Lugtu
23. Marcelo Naval
24. Josefina Ong
25. Fernando Trinidad
26. Tae Woo Kim
27. Alfredo Masigan
28. Ester Dee Rosca
29. Jose Gomez
30. Joon Kwon Park
31. Robert Paradies
32. Vicente Atilano
33. Milagros Baza
34. Curt Gilstrap
35. Jaime Del Rosario
36. Andrew Wellington
37. Kenny Wong
38. Venacion Chan
39. Cheryl Dr Dionisio
40. Concordia Ligad
41. Norman Dizon
42. Melvin Lim
43. Erlinda Lim
44. Oscar Meneses
45. Alvin Cagungun
46. William Cheng
47. Marcelo Dominguez
48. Santiago Guerrero
49. Levy Lauz
50. Vivian Dee Hay

Please be advised that SBGCC is offering the above-mentioned members an opportunity to finally settle their corresponding unpaid monthly on or before March 15, 2004. Otherwise, SBGCCI would be constrained to finally auction membership share with delinquent accounts. Payment may be made on an INSTALLMENT BASIS. For more details, please contact us at 535-7735.

(PDI – March 7, 2004)

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RESIDENTIAL

	TAGAYTAY CITY	MIN BID
1	Lot / Lot 8 Calamba-Tagaytay Rd.Brgy. Talentino-West (over Looking Taal Lake) L.A -2,156 (With Lis Pendens)	32,340,000

	PARANAQUE CITY	MIN BID
2	Condo / U-21-D, Cleveland Twr Asiaworld City /FA-363 94	9,401,000

	MAKATI CITY	MIN BID
3	Condo Unit/ Unit-1407 & 1408 14/F, BSA Mansion,Benavidez St,Legaspi Vill/Total FA-71 733	4,140,000
	Kingswood Condominium	
4	Penthse/Unit P2F, Twr-B, 28th & 29th flr, V Cruz Ext'n/ FA-154	7,207,200
5.	Penthse/Unit P3F Twr-B, 26th & 27th flr V Cruz Ext'n / FA-154	7,207,200

	QUEZON CITY	MIN BID
6	2 Sty Res'l / Lot-1-A, Unit-B Agnes St, ideal Subd, Com-Monwealth. LA-80 / FA-145	1,500,000
7	Resl Apt-10 Dr, 2-Sty /Castro Compound, Sta Lucia, Novaliches LA-250 / FA-369	2,248,000
8.	4 Sty H&L / # 394-A Sangandaan N'liches LA-218/FA-721	4,100,000

	PASIG (ORTIGAS CENTER)	MIN BID
9	Condo /Unit – 2802, AIC Gold Twr, Emerald Ave / FA-187 17	6,900,000

	ANTIPOLO, RIZAL	MIN BID
10.	Lot-20 Blk -17, Jerusalem St Palmera Hills-5, Uulan /LA-120	341,000
11	Lot-79 Blk -38, Forest Hills Subd, Brgy San Isidro /LA-523	1,200,000
12.	Lot / L-23 Blk-10 / LA – 266 Cottonwood Hts, Brgy Bayugo	1,435,000
13	Lot / L-21 Blk-2 / LA – 355 Cottonwood Hts, Brgy Bayugo	1,641,000
14.	Lot / L-47 B-16 Park Ridge Est -3 (via Valley Golf) LA-611	2,056,000
15	Lot/ L-17 Blk-1 Beverly St, Sta Barbara-1, Luxury Est. Mission Hills, Brgy Colaigue/ LA-1,021	2,750,000

	CAVITE – Springville, Molino	MIN BID
16	L-10-B B-2, Rimas St , West Phase – 1 / L.A. – 71	291,000
17	L-20-A B-2, Rimas St/ L A - 75	308,000
18	L24 B-13 Agoho St , Central Phase – 2 / L A. – 70	319,000
19.	L-11-A B-22, Dayap St , West Phase – 2 / L A - 80	326,000
20	L-3-B B-10, Pina St., West Phase – 1 / L A - 65	348,000
21	L-3 B-2, Chico St., West Phase – 2 / L A - 163	750,000
22	L-8 B-12, (near Agoho St), Central Phase-2 / L.A. – 180	820,000

	CAVITE	MIN BID
23	H&L / L-13 Blk -43, City Hms Resortville, Brgy Lancaan, Dasmarinas LA- 35 / FA- 25	135,000
24	L-16 B-1, Ph.-1, Mia. South Woods Res'l Estate, Baybay, Carmona / LA-1,224	4,604,000

	TAYTAY, RIZAL	MIN BID
25	2 Sty Res'l / Lot-1 Melon cor Guava Sts , Dividend Homes San Juan LA-185 / FA- 333	1,550,000

	MUNTINLUPA – Victoria Hms.	MIN BID
26	L-125 B-3-A, Almond St/LA-436	872,000
27.	L-127 B-3-A Almond St/LA-459	918,000
28	L-19 B-3-I Jasmine St /LA-713	1,426,000

	CALOOCAN CITY	MIN BID
29	Res'l lot / Lot-5 Blk-5, Myrna Subd,Brgy Llano/Net LA-1,398	1,804,000

	VALENZUELA	MIN BID
30	2 Sty Bldg/L-23-A-4 N Uruta St, Palasan LA-670 / FA-694	2,070,000
31	Lot / L-551-A-2-A-3, Pineda Compd,Bonifacio St,Canumay – East / LA - 1,114	2,241,000
32	3-Dr /1-sty Apt w/ warehouse # 92 G Marcelo St , Maysan L A - 500 / F A - 386	2,000,000
33	2 Sty Hse & lot / Lot-1, 2 & 3 Blk-7 cor of Aster, Wistaria & Forsythia Sts,De Castro Subd Bagbaguin/TLA- 650 / FA- 547	6,660,000

	LAGUNA-Poblacion, Cabuyao	MIN BID
34	6 Dr-2 Sty Apt/Lot 6 & 8 Blk-7 Via Ferenze St, Romanville Subd,Ph-1, Brgy Tagapo, Sta. Rosa L A - 220 / F A - 382	1,843,000
35	2 Sty Thse / Unit-2 Bellbart Elsol Villas Thms LA-54/FA-55	615,000
36	2 Sty Thse / Unit-4 Bellbart Elsol Villas Thms LA-54/FA-55	615,000

	ANGONO, RIZAL	MIN BID
37	L-6 Blk 2 Milia St. Sta Monica Classic Est ,Ph-3, Mission Hills Mahabang Parang (via Antipolo) L A - 540	1,677,000

	ISABELA	MIN BID
38	Lot/Lot 8833-D, Provincial Rd Bacarena San Mateo/LA-3,673	937,000

	BICOL – Legaspi, Albay	MIN BID
39	Lot 54-E, F & G, M Marquez Extn , CRB Subd / L A - 3,000	1,766,000

	TARLAC CITY	MIN BID
40	Agro - Ind'l Lot / Lot 3871-D S. Maragul, Tibag / LA-10,001	2,321,000

	NUEVA ECIJA	MIN BID
41	Lot 46 C-1 to 46-C-27,Km #96 Castellano,Sn Leonardo/LA-5,000	2,168,000
	(# 529 Pag-Asa, Daan Sarili, Cab. City)	
42	Lot 3-A-6/LA-2,071/NLA-1,620 82	240,000
43	Lot 3-A-5/LA-2,071/NLA-1,647 61	241,000
44	Lot 3-A-4/LA-2,071/NLA-1,647 66	241,000
45	Lot 3-A-3/LA-2,071/NLA-1,646 17	241,000
46	Lot 3-A-2/LA-2,071/NLA-1,646 36	241,000
47	Lot 3-A-1/LA-2,071/NLA-1,639 66	241,000
48	Lot 2 B/LA-2,019/NLA 2,338 66	773,000

RESIDENTIAL

	NUEVA ECIJA	MIN BID
	(# 529 Pag-Asa, Daan Sarili, Cab. City)	
49	Lot 2-A/LA-2,622/NLA-2,535 36	633,000
50.	Lot 2-D/LA-2,250/NLA-2,006 08	1,127,000
51.	Lot 2-C/LA-2,616/NLA-2,345 81	1,311,000
52	Lot 2-F/LA-2,250/NLA-2,008 66	1,610,000
53.	Lot 2-E/LA-2,249/NLA-2,007.46	1,610,000
54	2 Storey resl. / Lot 2-G LA-2,384/NLA-1,881 B/FA-138	2,413,000

	Orchard Res'l.Estates and Golf & Country Club, Salitran, Dasmarinas, Cavite	
	FAIRWAY LOTS	**MIN BID**
55	L - 31 Blk – 30 / L A – 658	3,261,000
56.	L - 17 Blk – 10 / L A. – 1,034	3,930,000
57	L - 52 Blk – 17 / L A – 1,130	4,294,000
	NON – FAIRWAY LOTS	**MIN BID**
58	L – 35 Blk - 37 / L A - 687	2,061,000
59.	L – 03 Blk - 43 / L A - 855	2,565,000
60	L – 67 Blk - 48 / L A - 506	1,518,000

	STA. MARIA, BULACAN – SUNRAYS VILL.	
61.	Lot / L – 2 Blk. -5 / L.A.- 40	60,000
62.	Lot / L – 3 Blk. -5 / L.A.- 40	60,000
63.	Lot / L – 38 Blk. -5 / L.A.- 40	60,000
64.	Lot / L – 39 Blk. -5 / L.A.-108	162,000
65	Lot / L – 40 Blk. -5 / L.A.-116	174,000
66	Lot / L – 50 Blk. -5 / L.A.- 40	60,000
67	Lot / L – 72 Blk. -5 / L.A.- 40	60,000
68.	Lot / L – 75 Blk. -5 / L.A.- 40	60,000
69	Lot / L – 76 Blk. -5 / L.A.- 40	60,000
70.	Lot / L – 77 Blk. -5 / L.A.- 40	60,000
71.	Lot / L – 78 Blk. -5 / L.A.- 40	60,000
72.	Lot / L – 79 Blk. -5 / L.A.- 40	60,000
73	Lot / L – 5 Blk. -3 / L.A.- 70	210,000
74	Lot / L – 7 Blk. -3 / L.A.- 70	210,000
75	Lot / L – 11 Blk. -3 / L.A.- 70	210,000
76.	Lot / L – 13 Blk. -3 / L.A.- 70	210,000
77.	Lot / L – 15 Blk. -3 / L.A.- 70	210,000
78	Lot / L – 17 Blk. -3 / L.A.- 70	210,000
79.	Lot / L – 19 Blk. -3 / L.A.- 70	210,000
80.	Lot / L – 27 Blk. -3 / L.A.- 70	210,000
81	Lot / L – 29 Blk. -3 / L.A.- 70	210,000

COMMERCIAL

	VALENZUELA CITY	MIN BID
82	Indl Lot / Lot-301-B-1, Brgy Maysan / Net L A - 3,269	2,600,000
83.	Ind'l. Lot / Lot-303-B-2, Brgy Maysan / Net L A.- 11,174	7,599,000
84.	Ind'l Lot / Lot-2, 6-A, 4-A & B, 3, 6-B-1 & 2, Brgy Maysan Net L A-12,516 (via Viongco St)	10,812,000
85	Ind'l Lot / Lot 1091-A-2-B, 386-C-2, 1571-386-D, 1572-B-1-A, 1572-B-2-A, 1091-A-2-A, 1572-B-2-B & 386-C-1-B, Jacinto St, Canumay-West Net L A - 27,094	21,481,000
86	Ind'l Lot w/ Warehse / # 47 Maysan Rd., Brgy. Maysan T L A- 7,871 / T F.A- 7,040	56,396,000
87.	Ind'l Lot / Lot-1085-B-2-C-2 Plastic City Comp'd , Brgy Maysan. LA-400 (near gate-5)	680,000
88	Ind'l Lot w/ 2 Warehse (14 & 16) Barracks, Canteen, Guardhse Lot1075-D-1-C, Plastic City # 6 T Santiago St, Canumay-West. LA- 8,923 / FA- 7,096	54,700,000
89	Ind'l Lot w/ 3 Res'l Bldgs /Lot-382-G, Plastic City Housing Canumay LA-25,798/FA-5,310	43,864,000
90	Wareh'se / Lot-13 Templanza St, Don Pedro Vill, Marulas Val / L A - 2 540 / F A - 3,314	12,200,000

	MAKATI	MIN BID
91.	Lot# 3904 Quingua St, Brgy Pinagkaisahan / LA-612	12,240,000
92	Condo/ 5/F Millenium Plaza Eduque St / F A - 261 24	12,436,000
93	Lot /Lot-1-B & Lot-2-B, Buen-Dia cor Marconi St / TLA-472	15,200,000

	QUEZON CITY	MIN BID
94	Lot 8 & 9 Blk-S-27, Timog Ave LA-1,380/FA-1,500 (On Lease)	76,936,000
95.	3 Sty Bldg /# 500 Quirino Hi-way, Brgy Bagbag, Novaliches LA-180 / FA-488	5,555,000
96.	Whse /# 185 Roosevelt Ave SFDM /TLA- 5,841/TFA-3,454	140,000,000

	MANILA	MIN BID
97	Dormitory-4 Sty / # 352 M F Jhocson St., Sampaloc L A - 489 3 / T F A. - 1,620.5	15,750,000
98	3 Sty Bldg / Anacleto St , (back of # 1933 Rizal Ave) L A – 294 / F A - 810	14,640,000
99	2/F KP Twr., CM Recto Ave Cor Juan Luna St / FA-658	23,500,000

	PASIG, ORTIGAS CENTER	MIN BID
100	Offc Unit/ Unit # 2004 OMM Citra Bldg San Miguel Ave (w/ parking) / FA-153 64	4,810,000

	CABANATUAN CITY, N.ECIJA	MIN BID
	(# 529 Purok Pag-Asa, Daan Sarili)	
101	Agri lot /Lot 3-B/ NLA-37,041	1,656,000
102	Comml lot w/ Whse & Offc Lot 2-H / LA-2,810 NLA-2,260 67 / FA – 580	3,560,000

	TARLAC CITY	MIN BID
103	Lot / L-4-C, Rizal St /L A -759	6,475,000
104	Lot / L-4-B, Panganiban cor. Rizal Sts / L A - 1,102	9,402,000
105	Lot / L-4-A, Panganiban cor. Rizal Sts. / L A - 1,120	9,554,000

	TAGUIG	MIN BID
106	Indl lot/L-2-B-1-A-1,Perfecto Drive, Bagumbayan/ LA-2,920	9,200,000

	SARIAYA-QUEZON PROVINCE	MIN BID
107	Agri lot w/ resl H&L, Whse & Piggery/Lot 6181-A-5-A-1-A-1-I, Psd 4A-001202 Sampaloc TLA -101,038.65 / TFA 9,277	40,548,000

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Addas II Village, Bgy. Molino
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VILLA ESPANA LA 108.50m² P12,000/m² Vic 8903461 loc 27

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BULACAN

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TOWN & COUNTRY HILLS LA 150m² P2,900/m² Vic 8903461 loc 27

CAVITE

DON BOSCO EXEC HTS LA 128m² P2,900/m² Vic 8903461 loc 27

PARKPLACE SUBD LA 120m² P5,750/m² Vic 8903461 loc 27

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4BR2TB 1CG Sta Mesa Hts 09194831681 7402078

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Nr AYALA 870-8848 11.5T

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LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late ALBINA MATIAS was extra-judicially settled with self-adjudication by her sole heir MARINEL M. SARMIENTO per Doc. No 268, Page 54, Book I, Series of 2004 before Notary Public Atty Wendell E. Coronel of Makati.
PDI–Feb. 29, March 7 & 14, 2004

NOTICE OF LOSS

Notice is given of the lost S2#8576R00-0026 in the name of Dr. Isagani S. Gonzales since Dec 2002
(PDI - March 7, 2004)

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF LOSS

Notice is given that Ayala Land, Inc. stock certificates series #2196F, #21699F, #8002674F, #8014699F, #8020212F, #8050207F, #8076559F, #8105167F, #8135196F, #8174094F, #8203878F issued to FE U. CHUA were lost. If no contest received new certificates will be issued.
(PDI-Feb. 29, Mar. 7 & 14, 2004)

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KUDOS. The National Housing Authority (NHA) recently honored four community association in Region IV for having consistently paid their monthly amortization under the NHA's Land Tenure Assistance Program (LTAP), NHA has intesnified its collection efforts to generate funds that will finance more housing projects this year for marginalized families. Shown in photo is NHA Southern Luzon/Bicol Region (SLB) Area Management Officer Virginia Domingo congratulating one of the awardees during simple rites held at the NHA main office. Also in photo are (from left) NHA-SLB Deputy Area Management Officer Susan Nonato and NHA Project Manager Dante Angulo.

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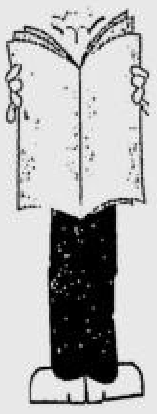

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IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION OF THE INCREMENTAL CURRENCY EXCHANGE RATE ADJUSTMENT (ICERA)

ERC CASE NO. 2004-______

NATIONAL POWER CORPORATION (NPC) and
POWER SECTOR ASSETS AND LIABILITIES MANAGEMENT
CORPORATION (PSALM),
Applicants.
x--x

APPLICATION

Applicants **NATIONAL POWER CORPORATION (NPC)** and **POWER SECTOR ASSETS AND LIABILITIES MANAGEMENT CORPORATION (PSALM)**, by undersigned counsels and to this Honorable Commission, most respectfully state that:

1. NPC is a government-owned and controlled corporation, created and existing under by virtue of Republic Act No. 6395, as amended, with principal office address at NPC-Office Building Complex (NPC-OBC), corner Quezon Avenue and Agham Road, East Triangle, Diliman, Quezon City.
2. PSALM is a government-owned and controlled corporation, created and existing by virtue of Republic Act No. 9136 or the "Electric Power Industry Reform Act of 2001", with principal address at 2/F SGV II Building, Ayala Avenue, Makati City.
3. This Application is a joint filing between applicants NPC and PSALM. Applicant NPC is filing this Application in its capacity as owner of record of all existing assets and energy, and as mandated under its Charter to undertake the development of hydroelectric generation of power and the production of electricity from nuclear, geothermal and other sources of energy in order to attain, among others, the objective of providing adequate and reasonable price of electric power nationwide. Applicant PSALM is filing this Application in its capacity as administrator of applicant NPC and the transferee and owner of its assets pursuant to Section 49 of R.A. 9136.
4. In the Order dated 24 February 2003, the Honorable Commission issued and adopted the Implementing Rules for the Incremental Currency Exchange Rate Adjustment (ICERA) providing, among others, the required mechanisms for the recovery of the deferred Foreign Exchange (FOREX) Adjustment.
5. This Application covers the test period October to December 2003. Applicants have complied with the ICERA's monthly reporting requirements as evidenced by the receipts of the Honorable Commission of the submitted reports hereto attached as **Annex "A" and series.**
6. Pursuant to the Implementing Rules of the ICERA, applicants have developed their proposed 2nd ICERA for the Main Grid for the period October to December 2003 that shall allow them to refund/recover the following deferred FOREX and the corresponding carrying charges based on the BSP-established 91-day Treasury Bills rates plus three (3) percent, to wit:

	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
AS BILLED, P/kWh			
Forex I	0.1592	0.1592	0.1683
Forex II	0.0600	0.0600	0.0589
Total	0.2192	0.2192	0.2272
Forex Correction	0.0314	0.0314	0.0012
Total	0.2506	0.2506	0.2284
Add: DAA	-	-	(0.0077)
Total Forex	**0.2506**	**0.2506**	**0.2207**
AS CALCULATED (ACTUAL), P/kWh			
Forex I	0.2261	0.2402	0.1683
Forex II	0.0653	0.0683	0.0691
Total	0.2914	0.3085	0.2374
Forex Correction	0.0012	0.0012	0.0012
Total	0.2926	0.3097	0.2386
Add: DAA	-	-	(0.0077)
Total Forex	**0.2926**	**0.3097**	**0.2309**
UNDER / (OVER) RECOVERY, P/kWH			
Forex I	0.0669	0.0810	-
Forex II	0.0053	0.0083	0.0102
Total	0.0722	0.0893	0.0102
Forex Correction	(0.0302)	(0.0302)	-
Total	0.0420	0.0591	0.0102
Add: DAA	-	-	-
Total	**0.0420**	**0.0591**	**0.0102**
Energy Sales - Phil., GWh	2,750	2,700	2,600
UNDER / (OVER) RECOVERY, Pesos	115,514,446	159,572,981	26,517,027

TOTAL DAA COMPONENT	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	TOTAL
Principal	115,514,445.87	159,572,980.88	229,554,260.33	504,641,687.08
Carrying Charges	2,555,660.85	2,433,487.96	1,721,656.95	6,710,805.76
Total	**118,070,106.72**	**162,006,468.84**	**231,275,917.28**	**511,352,492.85**

Carrying Charge rate:	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	TOTAL
91-day Treasury Bills	5.249%	6.000%	6.000%
Allowance under GRAM Guidelines	3.000%	3.000%	3.000%
Total Rate Utilized	8.249%	9.000%	9.000%

7. In support of the above figures, attached hereto are the computations and information on the following:

Determination of deferred FOREX
and corresponding carrying charges
Annex "B" and series

Actual energy sales from October
to December 2003
Annex "C" and series

8. Applicants propose to recover all the above-stated under/over recoveries through the DAA and that the proposed recovery period is six (6) months covering the projected energy sales from April to September 2004, the maximum allowable recovery period under the Implementing Rules of the ICERA.
9. The projected Energy Sales (in kWh) used in applicant NPC's CY 2003 Budget Exercise hereto attached as **Annex "D"** should be utilized as basis for the recovery of the above-stated DAA components.
10. The computation of the proposed ICERA is attached hereto and made an integral part hereof as **Annex "E"**.
11. The proposed ICERA was approved by the National Power Board in Resolution No. 2004-13 dated 19 February 2004, a photocopy of which is attached hereto and made an integral part hereof as **Annex "F"**. It was also approved by the PSALM Board in Resolution No. _____ dated ______________, a certified true copy of which is attached hereto and made an integral part hereof as **Annex "G."**
12. The proposed ICERA is just, fair and reasonable as it allows the implementation of just deferred costs consistent with the principles of free and competitive electricity market as provided under R.A. 9136, and ultimately will redound to the best interest and benefit of the consuming public.
13. Pursuant to Section 4 (e) of Rule 3 of the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of R.A. No. 9136, attached hereto are the following jurisdictional requirements:
    a. Certification issued by the City Secretary of the Sangguniang Panglungsod of Quezon City as **Annex "H"**;
    b. Certification issued by the City Secretary of the Sangguniang Panglungsod of the City of Makati as **Annex "I"**;
    c. Two copies of the Application as published in the Philippine Daily Inquirer and Philippine Star, newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines, as **Annexes "J" and "K"**.

WHEREFORE, it is most respectfully prayed that the proposed **ICERA of P0.3363/kWh** for the Main Grid be **APPROVED.**

Other reliefs just and equitable under the premises are likewise prayed for.

Quezon City for Pasig City, 2 March 2004.

FOR THE SOLICITOR GENERAL:

(Sgd.) **RAINIER B. BUTALID**
VP-General Counsel
Special Attorney-OSG
IBP No. 607115/01.13.04/Q.C.
PTR No. 50044162/01.08.04/Q. C.
Roll No. 31612

(Sgd.) **COMIE P. DOROMAL**
Department Manager
Special Attorney-OSG
IBP No. 594567/10.17.03/Q.C.
PTR No. 50643246/01.14.04/Q.C.

(Sgd.) **MELCHOR P. RIDULME**
Special Attorney-OSG
IBP Life No. 01748; Roll No. 01748
PTR No.50393992/01.14.04/Q.C.

(Sgd.) **RONALD D.P. CONCEPCION**
Special Attorney-OSG
IBP No. 04995/Rizal/Rizal
PTR 292829/01.05.04/Mandaluyong
Roll No. 40065

(Sgd.) **GORDON SY MONTOJO**
Special Attorney-OSG
IBP No. 563776/01.09.03/Q.C.
PTR No. 38310063/01.09.03/Q.C.
Roll No. 44910

Counsels for
National Power Corporation
NPC Office Building Complex
Quezon Avenue corner BIR Road
East Triangle, Diliman, Quezon City

POWER SECTOR ASSETS AND LIABILITIES MANAGEMENT CORPORATION (PSALM):

(Sgd.) **MARIA LUZ L. CAMINERO**
VP-General Counsel
IBP No. 592825/09.11.03/Q.C.
Roll No. 35714

(Sgd.) **CECILIO B. GELLADA, JR.**
Department Manager
IBP No. 578612/01.03.03/Q.C.
Roll No. 30354

(Sgd.) **MARIA BELEN P. MONTES-NERA**
IBP No. 578039/01.22.03/Q.C.
Roll No. 37737

Counsels for Applicant PSALM
2nd Floor, SGV II Building
Ayala Avenue, Makati City

(PDI - March 7, 2004)

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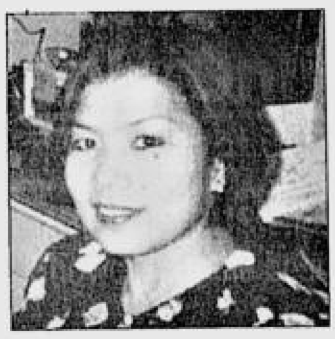
NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC



Be it known that a Warrant of Arrest of ACCUSED **EDITHA PORRAS CERBO also known as EDITH CERBO REYES** with last known address at Block 4, Lot 20 Ville Fidelas, Las Piñas and 60-A Luna Street, Mandaluyong City (near Iglesia ni Kristo Church), whose picture appears above, was issued by the Regional Trial Court of Quezon City, Branch 77, in Criminal Cases Nos. Q-03-118646, Q-03-118647, Q-03-118648, for the crime of **Estafa thru Falsification of Commercial Document.**

An award shall be given to anyone who can supply any information leading to her arrest. Please direct any information to:

JACOB & REMONTE LAW OFFICES
Unit 307, 1520 JR Bldg., Quezon Ave., Q.C.
Cellphone No. 0917-5299250
or
PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT
912-8881

Rest assured all information shall be treated with utmost confidentiality.

(PDI - March 7, 2004)

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"NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Notice is hereby given that **Criminal Case No. 331228** of the National Capital Judicial Region, Metropolitan Trial Court, City of Makati, Branch 64 is filed against **DONNABELLE ALVA of AEROSPAN TRAVEL AND TOURS** of No. 171 Alley 1 Project 6, Quezon City, for violation of Batas Pambansa Blg. 22 or the Bouncing Checks Law."

(PDI - March 7 and 14, 2004)

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ANNOUNCEMENT

The Management of PAMCO STATIONERY SUPPLIES, INC. hereby makes this public apology to Energizer Philippines, Inc. and Eveready Battery Company, USA in connection with the seizure of counterfeit batteries in the store of PAMCO STATIONERY SUPPLIES, INC. located at 528 Nueva Street, Binondo, Manila.

PAMCO STATIONERY SUPPLIES, INC. declares that it is not the policy of this company to market or deal in counterfeit products and will forever refrain from such activity. PAMCO also undertakes to inform Energizer Philippines and Eveready Battery Company, USA, whenever and wherever it shall discover such products in the market.

Manila City, January 5, 2004.

By: The Management of
PAMCO STATIONERY SUPPLIES, INC.

(PDI – March 7, 2004)

INVITATION TO BID

The Bank will foreclose and auction two (2) parcels of land with improvements more particularly described as follows:

Located at
No. 31 Balagtas-Bustos Provincial Road,
Sitio Mataas na Sampaloc, Barangay Bulihan, Plaridel, Bulacan.

Lot Area : 1) 2,268 sq.m. 2) 2,268 sq.m.
Improvements : 2,686 sq.m. (aggregate)

1) Production Warehosue - .... Flr. Area : 1,950 sq.m.
one (1) storey building
2) Canteen/Maintenance -........................ 504 sq.m.
one (1) storey building
3) Building 3 - two (2) storey building........ 180 sq.m.
4) Guard house/Barracks - .... 52 sq.m.
two (2) storey building

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E-mail:manila@henrybutcher.com
Website: www.henrybutcher.com/www.goindustry.com

PCS holds Terry Fox run

THE Philippine Cancer Society, in cooperation with the Canadian Embassy, will hold the Terry Fox Run on Sunday, March 14 at 6 a.m. at the Vicente Sotto Street., Cultural Center of the Philippines Complex, Proceeds of this fund raising event will be used for the Cancer Research Program.

Major Sponsors are Belco Marketing, Imelda Cojuanco, Mellie Ablaza, Dr. Raul Forres, Mayor Jejomar Binay, Mayor Sonny Belmonte, Senator Robert Barbers, Aurora Tan (Mommy Seiko), Mayor Pee Wee Trinidad, Mayor Lito Atienza, Soen Garments, Graphic Line, Netslé Philippines, San Miguel Corp., Purifil Water Corp., Pepsi Cola Products Philippines, Pancipane, Metro Biscuit, M.Y. San Biscuit, New Balance, Supply Oil Field Services, Inc., Frasier Place, Executive Prime Movers, AAA Charity Foundation, SR Telecom, Sun Life of Canada, Trends & Technologies, FedEx, FCB Worldwide, Oakwood (Premier Ayala Center Manila), Avia Shoes, Councilor Edith Vergel de Dios, Philippine Spring Water, Citadel Corporation, Milagros How, Nike Philippines, Inc., Country Style Donut and McDonalds.

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On the instructions of LMG Chemicals Corporation

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ON: THURSDAY 11TH MARCH 2004 - 10:30AM PROMPT

In over 400 lots including: -

DDB DETERGENT ALKYLATE CHEMICAL PLANT including - SULLAIR ARS Refrigerant Compressors; Asstd. Pumps; Induction Motors, Blowers; Insulated Pipelines; Large Qty. of Asstd. Installed Gate Valves; Ball Valves; Strainers; Flanges; Vertical & Horizontal Drums; BENZENE Recycle Drums; BENZENE Regeneration Dryer; Refrigerant Receiver; Alkylation Feed Dryers; Reactors; Acid Relief System; Scrubber; Regeneration Condenser; De-ethanizing Tower; Stabilizer Tower, HF Regeneration Still (Tower); BENZENE Recycle Still (Tower); Topping Still (Tower) & Rerun Still (Tower); Reboilers; Pre-heaters; Exchangers; Monel Tower; Condensers & Pipings, etc.

STORAGE TANKS - Carbon Steel Storage Tank 33m3 cap.; (2) Carbon Steel Storage Tank 162m3 cap.; Carbon Steel Storage Tank 161m3 cap.; Carbon Steel Storage Tank 32m3 cap.; Approx. 30 pcs. Cylinder Gas Tanks; Approx. 916 Kgs cap

MISC. SPARES & SCRAPS - Asstd. Unused Bearings; Check Valves; Ball Valves; Flanges; Tees; Elbows; Asstd. Electricals; Pressure Gauges; Pumps; Impeller Spares; Fittings; Asstd. Hand Tools; Fan Belts; Gasket; Oil Seals; Induction Motors; BI & GI Pipes; Steel Plates; Asstd. Metal Scraps, etc.

At.: LMG Chemicals Corporation - San Pascual, Batangas
On View: Wed. 10th March 2004 from 9:00am to 5:00pm &morning of sale day
Refundable Deposit: Php20,000 (upon registration),
Please bring valid ID to be presented during registration

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NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

This is to inform the public that the following persons are no longer connected with **C.F. SHARP CREW MANAGEMENT, INC.**

1. Eleanor E. Guangco	effective 15-Feb-04
2. Roel S. Saguid	effective 22-Jan-04
3. Melchie F. Pagtakhan	effective 17-Jan-04

All transactions entered into by the persons stated above for and in behalf of the company from the said dates shall no longer be honored.

(For POEA purposes only)

(PDI-March 7, 2004)

NEW PAGCOR
Philippine Amusement & Gaming Corporation
Responding Through Responsible Gaming

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID
ITB NO.: 02-11-2004

In lieu of our publications dated April 20 & 27, 2003 in The Manila Times, the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR) is inviting all authorized telecommunication operators in its forthcoming public bidding for the project stated hereunder:

Project	Connectivity Project
Lot 1	Northern / Central Luzon
Approved Budget	Four Million Seven Hundred Thousand Pesos (P 4,700,000.00)
Lot 2	Metro Manila / Southern Luzon
Approved Budget	Seven Million Four Hundred Thousand Pesos (P 7,400,000.00)
Lot 3	Vismin
Approved Budget	Four Million Seven Hundred Thousand Pesos (P4,700,000.00)
Source of Funds	Internally Funded

Bidding shall be per region. Participating carriers may bid on one region or all the regions.

Only operators duly registered with PAGCOR may be allowed to participate in the bidding. Unregistered operators must register at the Suppliers Registration & Evaluation Section (SRES), Procurement & Property Department (PPD), 2nd Floor PAGCOR House, 1330 Roxas Blvd., Ermita Manila, Tel. No. 526-0573.

The detailed project particulars and instructions to bidders are discussed in the Bid **Documents available for issuance from March 1, 2004 to March 29, 2004** at the BAC Secretariat Unit, PPD-Corporate upon payment of a non-refundable fee of *One Thousand Pesos (Php 1,000.00)*. In order to secure the documents, bidders should present the Official Receipt issued by our Cashier to the BAC Secretary handling the project.

Pre-Bid Conference	March 16, 2004	(10:00 am)
Submission of Bids	March 30, 2004	(2:00 pm)
Opening of Bids	March 30, 2004	(2:00 pm onwards)

PAGCOR has the right to disqualify any prospective bidder if found that they have submitted falsified documents and/or information, and the right to accept or reject any or all bids, to annul the bidding process, to waive any defects or formalities found therein and to accept such bid or a part thereof as may be deemed most advantageous to PAGCOR, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders.

PAGCOR reserves the right to reject any and all bids, declare a failure of bidding, or not award the contract if there is *prima facie* evidence of collusion between appropriate public officers or employees of the agency, or between the BAC and any of the bidders, or if the collusion is between or among the bidders themselves, or between a bidder and a third party, including any act which restricts, suppresses or nullifies or tends to restrict, suppress or nullify competition, or if the BAC is found to have failed to follow the prescribed bidding procedures, or for any justifiable and reasonable ground where the award of the contract will not redound to the benefit of the government (*R.A. 9184, Sec. 41*)

Please address communications to the BAC Secretariat Unit, Procurement & Property Department

(Sgd.) RENE C. FIGUEROA
Chairperson, BAC - 1

(PDI - March 7 & 14, 2004)

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RICHARD Y. CHUA

August 9, 1932 – March 3, 2004
of Sterling, Virginia, U.S.A.

Faithful Devotee of the Sacred Heart of Jesus,
Member: Ateneo Glee Club & Fr. Reuter's Base Singer of "Old Man River" fame;
Member: Asian Olympic Soccer Team;
Right Winger: Ateneo Soccer Team 1948 – 1952,
Team Captain: 1951 – 1952; Ateneo H.S. Class '52 / College Class '56.

True to form, ***Dick*** *again scored another winning goal, and this time, hit home in God's loving embrace. He had miraculously managed to trick death a number of times, but this past year, compounded health problems made it necessary for him to slow down even more. Dick died as he lived, inseparable from the faithful, loving wife he adored, surrounded by devoted family and friends. His gentleness, warmth, and quiet, affirming presence will be greatly missed, but we are comforted by the thought that choirs of angels now accompany him as he sings the "Our Father" to his Father in Heaven, in the way that he did for many years at St. Alphonsus Liguori Parish, Magallanes Village, Makati.*

Wife ***Betty Gomez*** *– his "Hon," children* ***Chad, Carisse & Paul Hontiveros, Dinna & Raffy Rivera, Rita & Daren Magness, Jondi & Rica, & George****; sister* ***Nena Cabrera****; grandchildren, in-laws, relatives & friends request that you keep him in your prayers.*

Cremation will take place in Virginia; Novena Masses are on-going from Thursday, March 4 to Friday, March 12, 2004 in the following churches:

– St. Alphonsus Liguori Parish Church – Magallanes Village, Makati – 6:00 P.M.
– St. Andrew of the Apostle Parish Church – Bel Air Village, Makati – 6:30 P.M.

* *Gregorian Masses for 30 days (Thurs. March 4 – Sun. April 4, 2004) are celebrated at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish Church – New Manila, Quezon City.*

CARMEN O. GARCIA – MANALAD

July 16, 1923 – March 5, 2004

Widow of the late

Conrado T. Manalad, Sr.

of BF International Las Piñas City
and Gapan, Nueva Ecija

Her bereaved children and grandchildren

- **Jose (†) – Lenida Palacio**
  Joel & Emwel
- **Mervin – Ester Mactal**
  Arlene & Roland
- **Dr. Adoracion – Dr. Teodulfo Palisoc, Jr.**
  Dr. Michelle, Dodgie & Marichelle
- **Ofelia – Danilo Malagkit**
  Kathryn & Danielle Anne
- **Mauro**
  Janice, Jordan, Genevieve & Dennie
- **Pablo**
- **Dr. Conrado, Jr. – Dr. Resurreccion L. Garcia**
  Paolo Martin
- **Lilia – Geronimo Bautista**
  Gilbert, Gerard & Geric
- **Carmelita – Jaime Garces**
  Jaibe & Joshua

great-grandchildren, sisters, nephews, nieces, relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at their residence, San Lorenzo, Gapan, Nueva Ecija.

Interment will be on Wednesday, March 10, 2004 at the family mausoleum, Gapan Memorial Garden after the 9:00 A.M. Mass at the Three Kings Parish Church, Gapan, Nueva Ecija

---

The UP College of Nursing

mourns the demise of

JULITA VILLARUEL SOTEJO

Founder and First Dean

June 16, 1906 – March 5, 2004

Her remains lie in state at Santuario de San Antonio, Capilla de la Virgen, Forbes Park, Makati City.

Friends, relatives and alumni request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Interment will be on Wednesday, March 10, 2004 at the Manila Memorial Park, Sucat, Parañaque after the 9:00 a.m. Mass at Santuario de San Antonio.

Instead of flowers, donations to UP College of Nursing Foundation, Inc. will be greatly appreciated.

An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.

Always caring... **INQUIRER OBITUARIES**

OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS: ❶ Copy of Death Certificate ❷ Any identification document (I.D.)

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT • MESSAGE OF THANKS • DEATH ANNIVERSARY • REQUIEMS • FREE OBIT DESIGN

On His 6th Death Anniversary
We remember and miss a Son,
Brother and a Friend,

JUAN CRISOSTOMO "John" G. PADUA

Who rejoice fully joined his Savior and friend, Jesus
on March 7, 1998 at age 42
at Cherry Point, North Carolina, USA

His mortal remains now lies
in Himlayang Pilipino Memorial Park
in Quezon City.

"Home from the earthly journey,
Safe for eternity;
All that the Savior promised —
that is what heaven will be."

For the needs of your departed Loved Ones, the following establishments can help you.

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COSMOPOLITAN FUNERAL HOMES, INC.
Camus Ext. cor. J. Abad Santos, Davao City; Tels. (082) 227-1201; 227-1258
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#42 Upper Kalaklan, Olongapo City
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Tels. 2812963; 2813034; 2810522
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Santo Entierro cor. P. Burgos St., Lourdes Sur, Angeles City
Tels. (045) 888-2959 ; (045) 322-5247
FUNERARIA ANGEL QUIOGUE
No. 67 Pasig Boulevard Extension, Pasig City; Tels. 641-7909; 641-1735
M. Almeda St., Pateros, Metro Manila; Tels. 642-3010; 633-3602
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187 Real St., Zapote Alabang, Las Piñas, Tels. 873-0507; 873-0024
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> "Behold my servant whom I have
> chosen, my beloved in whom I delight"
> **Matthew 12:18**

NORA RODRIGUEZ COSIO

of Pasig City

Peacefully joined the Lord
on March 5, 2004 at the age of 72.

Her beloved husband **Jesus** (†); children **Dinah** and **Rey**, **Cecille & Zalo**, **Beth & Jun**, **Aleli & Ochie**; grandchildren **Cristabel & Leslie**, **Angela & Gabrielle**, **Christian**, **Miguel**, **Carlo & Lorenzo**; sisters **Monina Rodriguez**, **Nellie Garcia**, **Yolanda Rodriguez** (†), brothers-in-law **Avelino**, **Narciso Jr.**, **Bienvenido** (†); nephews & nieces, cousins and other relatives request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at Arlington East, San Miguel Avenue, Pasig City.

Interment will be announced later.

In Loving Memory

on the **Sixth Death Anniversary** of

FILOMENA L. CONTRERAS

November 22, 1906 - March 7, 1998

Holy Masses will be offered today, March 7, 2004 at the following churches:

Family Mausoleum	Manila Memorial Park, Sucat, Parañaque	4:00 PM
Santuario de San Antonio	Forbes Park, Makati City	7:30 AM
St. Alphonsus Mary de Liguori	Magallanes Village, Makati City	7:00 AM
Our Lady of the Abandoned	Sta. Ana, Manila	6:30 AM
Santuario de San Jose	Greenhills, San Juan	7:15 AM, 6:15 AM
Mary, The Queen	Madison Street, San Juan	7:00 AM
St. Joseph Parish	Project 3, Quezon City	7:00 AM
Immaculate Conception Parish	Lantana Street, Cubao, Quezon City	7:00 AM
Christ the King Seminary	Eulogio Rodriguez, Quezon City	7:00 AM
San Sebastian Cathedral	Lipa City, Batangas	6:00 AM
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church	Lipa City, Batangas	6:00 AM
Don Bosco Parish Church	Pasay Road, Makati City	7:00 AM

We, her family, request relatives, friends and pious readers
to join us in prayer for the eternal repose of her soul.

In Loving Memory on the First Death Anniversary of

Dr. Juan L. Joaquin

May 27, 1936 - March 12, 2003

His loving wife Mila; children Penny, Embee, and Gerard request relatives and friends to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered for him accordingly:

Peñafrancia Shrine
Peñafrancia Avenue, Naga City
March 12, 2004 / 5:00 am

Peñafrancia Basilica Minore and National Shrine
Basilica Drive, Balatas, Naga City
March 12, 2004 / 6:00 am

Metropolitan Cathedral
Naga City
March 12, 2004 / 7:30 am

St. Francis Church
2116 Avenue SE
Calgary, Alberta, Canada
March 12, 2004 / 12:00 nn

San Francisco Church
Peñafrancia Avenue, Naga City
March 12, 2004 / 12:15 pm

San Roque Parish
Mendiola St., Alabang
March 12, 2004 / 6:00 pm

St. Patrick Church
1414 Shawnessy Blvd., SW
Calgary, Alberta, Canada
March 13, 2004 / 5:30 pm

Epiphany of the Lord Parish
Camarin, Novaliches, Caloocan
March 13, 2004 / 6:00 pm

St. Benedict Chapel
Alabang Hills Village
Muntinlupa City
March 13, 2004 / 6:30 pm

Holy Nazarene Parish
Mendiola St., Alabang
March 14, 2004 / 9:00 am

God saw you getting tired, when a cure was not to be. So He wrapped His arms around you,
and whispered, "Come to me." You didn't deserve what you went through, so He gave you rest.

ATTY. RUBEN B. SARAJAN, SR.

(Pathfinder School Legal Consultant & Member of the Baord of Directors)

August 07, 1936 – February 25, 2004
of Libon, Albay & SSS Village, Marikina City
peacefully joined his Creator at the age of 67.

Lovingly remembered by his wife, **Lydia** and his children: **Boyet & Claire**, **Babette & George**, **Jojo & Malou**, **Babelyn**, **Bhinky & June**, **Ning & Gregor** and grandchildren: **David**, **Tracy**, **Micah**, **Jonah**, **Ezzie**, **Alyssa**, **John**, **Ashley**, **Karen**, **Carol**, **Kim**, **Joanna**, **John Reuben**, **John Philip**, **Cheska**, **Miguel & Gabrielle** and other relatives.

His remains lie in state at Chapels 1 & 2 at the Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina City.

Interment will be on Wednesday, March 10, 2004 at the Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina City after the 2:00 p.m. memorial service.

"To be absent in the body is to be present with the Lord."

"The Lord is my strength
and my shield in whom my heart
trusted and found help.
So my heart rejoices;
with my song I praise
my God..."
Psalm 28:7

Message of Thanks

We, the family of the late

EDUARDO G. FABIAN

of Las Piñas City & Tarlac City

who passed away in the Grace of our Lord on February 22, 2004

wish to express our heartfelt gratitude and sincerest appreciation to all those who offered masses and prayers, sent flowers and messages of sympathy and who in countless ways, condoled with and comforted us in our hour of bereavement.

FELICULA DENOMAN LAZARO

of Malabon City

Passed away in the Grace
of our Lord on March 2, 2004
at the age of 95.

Her bereaved children **NORMA**, **MERLE**, **POMPOSA** and **LORENZO** and all her grandchildren request your prayers for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her body lies in state at
#384 General Luna Street, Malabon City.

Interment will be on March 10, 2004
at Holy Cross Memorial Park,
Quezon City at 2:00 p.m.

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Republic of the Philippines to Department of Labor
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TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT PROJECT
TESDA Complex, East Service Road, South Super Highway
Fort Bonifacio, Taguig, Metro Manila

TESDA

INVITATION FOR PREQUALIFICATION

ADB-CW-IFP-01b

Date of Advertisement
ADB Loan no. 1750 PHI
OPEC Loan no. 841 P

1. The Republic of the Philippines has received a loan from the OPEC Fund for International Development towards the cost of financing the civil works component of the Technical Education and Skills Development Project (TESDP) under the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA). The Project is jointly financed by the Asian Development Bank (ADB), OPEC Fund for International Development, NORDIC Development Fund and the DANIDA Mixed Credit. The eligibility rules and procedures of ADB will govern the prequalification and the bidding process.
2. The Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (hereinafter referred to as the "Employer") intends to prequalify firms for the construction/refurbishment of the Centers of Technical Excellence (CenTexes) in:

   Institution — **Location**

   Region IX
   1. Kabasalan National Vocational Kabasalan, Zamboanga Sibugay School

   CAR
   2. Baguio City School of Arts and Upper Session Road, Baguio City Trades
3. It is expected that the Invitation for Bids will be made on May 03 and 04, 2004.
4. Interested eligible applicants may obtain further information from the Office of the Regional Bids and Awards Committee (RBAC) and inspect the Prequalification Document at the address given below, during government working days from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm beginning March 01 to 30, 2004.
5. The Prequalification Document, in the English language, may be purchased by interested applicants on the submission of a written application to the address below and upon payment in cash/ or cashier's check/ or direct deposit to TESDA Regional Office (TESDA RO) of a non-refundable fee of One Thousand Pesos (P 1,000.00). The official receipt to be issued by the TESDA RO shall serve as proof of payment and will be shown to the Office of the RBAC to pick-up the Prequalification Document.
6. Applications must be delivered to the address below at or before 12:00 noon of April 07, 2004. The Employer reserves the right to accept or reject late applications.
7. The Employer will not be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by the applicants in connection with the preparation or delivery of their applications.
8. The Employer will notify all applicants in writing of the names of those applicants who have been prequalified.
9. The address of RBAC in the regional offices are:

	Location/ Mailing Address	Facsimile No.	Telephone No.
Region IX	The Chairman, Regional Bids and Award Committee, San Roque, Zamboanga City	(62) 991-3229	(62) 991-3229
CAR	The Chairman, Regional Bids and Award Committee, Km. 247 Magsaysay Drive, Loakan Road, Baguio City	(74) 447-2559	(74) 447-3487

(Sgd.) **ALCESTIS M. GUIANG**
Director General

(PDI--Feb. 29 & March 7, 2004)

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
SAN LAZARO HOSPITAL
Quiricada St., Sta. Cruz
Manila
Telephone Nos.: 732-37-76 to 78; 732-31-06
E-mail address: snlazaro@doh.gov.ph

SLH-BIDS & AWARDS COMMITTEE
INVITATION FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The San Lazaro Hospital hereby invites sealed written bid for the procurement and delivery of various Hospital Supplies/Materials for SECOND Semester CY, 2004 and Hospital Equipment, CY 2004.

Interested applicants must submit pre-qualifications/supporting documents, which includes but not limited to the following:

1. Authenticated copy of DTI
2. Authenticated copy of the DBM G-EPS Certificate of Registration
3. Authenticated copy of SEC Registration
4. Authenticated copy of BIR
5. Financial Statement for the past two (2) years
6. Updated business license/mayor's permit
7. Income tax return and other pertinent accreditations, etc.
8. Payment of non-refundable fee for Drugs & Medicines/Laboratory - Php 1,000.00; Medical/Gases Supplies Php 500.00; Dental/Radiology/Dietary/Engr. & Maintenance - Php 300.00; Janitorial Supplies - Php 200.00 and Hospital Equipment - Php 2,000.00.

Bidding documents can be secured at the Secretariat, SLHBAC, at the BAC Office, Rm. 20, Payward, 2nd floor, Administration Building, SLH, Quiricada St., Sta. Cruz, Manila.

The schedules of bidding activities are as follows:
Hospital Supplies/Materials/Equipments.

Particulars	Issuance of Bid Documents	Pre-bid Conference	Submission of Bids	Opening of Bids
1. Various Drugs/ Medicines	Mar. 22-Apr. 12, 2004	Mar. 30, 2004 9:00 am	Apr. 13, 2004 9:00 am	Apr. 13, 2004 9:01 am
2. Various Laboratory Reagents/Supplies	Mar. 22-Apr. 12, 2004	Mar. 31, 2004 9:00 am	Apr. 14, 2004 9:00 am	Apr. 14, 2004 9:01 am
3. Various Medical Supplies/Oxygen & Gases	Mar. 22-Apr. 12, 2004	Apr. 01, 2004 9:00 am	Apr. 15, 2004 9:00 am	Apr. 15, 2004 9:01 am
4. Various Dietary Foodstuff	Mar. 22-Apr. 12, 2004	Apr. 01, 2004 2:00 pm	Apr. 15, 2004 2:00 pm	Apr. 15, 2004 2:01 pm
5. Various Radiology Supplies	Mar. 22-Apr. 12, 2004	Apr. 02, 2004 9:00 am	Apr. 16, 2004 9:00 am	Apr. 16, 2004 9:01 am
6. Various Dental Supplies	Mar. 22-Apr. 12, 2004	Apr. 02, 2004 10:30 am	Apr. 16, 2004 10:30 am	Apr. 16, 2004 10:31 am
7. Various Maintenance Supplies	Mar. 22-Apr. 12, 2004	Apr. 02, 2004 1:30 pm	Apr. 16, 2004 1:30 pm	Apr. 16, 2004 1:31 pm
8. Various Janitorial Supplies	Mar. 22-Apr. 12, 2004	Apr. 02, 2004 2:30 pm	Apr. 16, 2004 2:30 pm	Apr. 16, 2004 2:31 pm
9. Hospital Equipment	Mar. 22-Apr. 12, 2004	Apr. 05, 2004 9:00 am	Apr. 19, 2004 9:00 am	Apr. 19, 2004 9:01 am

All particulars relative to the eligibility process, bid bond, performance bond, pre-bid conference, bid evaluation and award of contract shall be governed by the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR A) of Republic Act. No. 9184, otherwise know as the Government Procurement Reform Act.

All activities shall be held at the SACCL Conference Room/SLH Amphitheater Audio Visual Room, San Lazaro Hospital, Quiricada St., Sta. Cruz, Manila unless announced otherwise.

Each bid must be accompanied by a Bid Security of not less than two and a half percent (2.5%) of Approved Budget Cost per item or as indicated in the issued Bid documents. Delivery of Supplies is on staggered basis and bid validity is for six (6) months.

For further details, please contact the Secretariat, SLH BAC at telephone No 732-37-76 loc. 207.

SAN LAZARO HOSPITAL BAC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO ACCEPT OR REJECT ANY BID, TO ANNUL THE BIDDING PROCESS, REJECTS ALL BIDS AT ANYTIME PRIOR TO THE AWARD OF THE CONTRACT, WITHOUT THEREBY INCURRING ANY LIABILITY TO THE AFFECTED BIDDERS OR ANY OBLIGATION TO INFORM THE AFFECTED BIDDER/ BIDDERS ON THE REASONS FOR DOING SO SLH-BAC ASSUMES NO OBLIGATION TO COMPENSATE OR INDEMNIFY BIDS NOR DEEM IT GUARANTEED THAT AN AWARD WILL BE MADE.

(Sgd.) **JOVITA C. GONZALES, RM, MAN, Ed. D**
Chairperson, SLH-BAC

Noted by:
(Sgd.) **ARTURO B. CABANBAN, MD, DTM & H, EPSMID, MHA**
Medical Center Chief II, San Lazaro Hospital
(PDI--Mar. 7 & 14, 2004)

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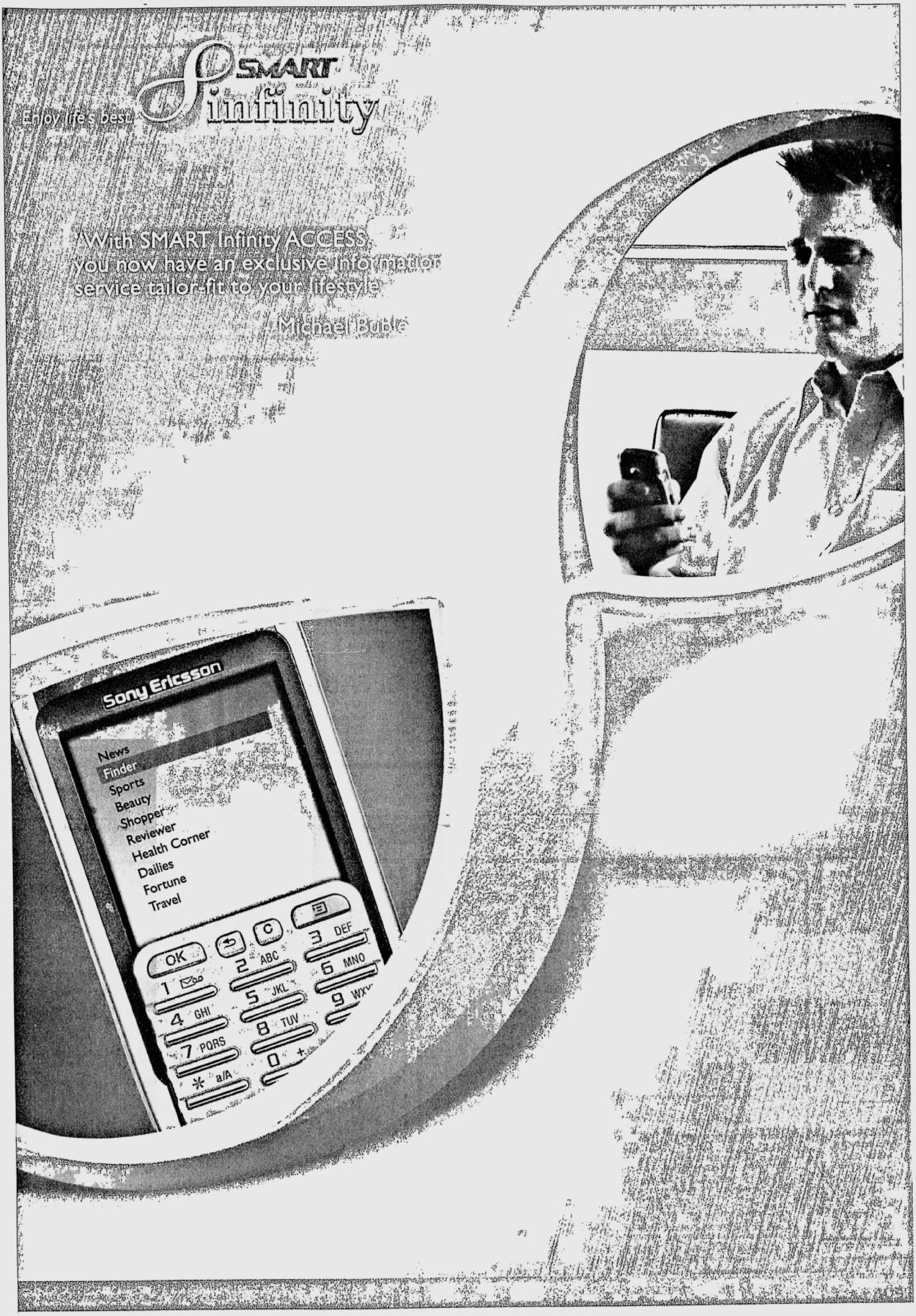
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ENTERTAINMENT

'Over my dead body'

Dad refuses to give Halina to husband, ex-wife

Romulo O. Ponte
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

HALINA in the last photograph taken of her a few hours before she died last Thursday

STA. MARIA, Laguna—"She was born here, she grew up here, she was schooled here, she lived here, she would stay (here) until her final days."

This is what the father of bold starlet Halina Perez stressed as he stood firm on his decision not to give his daughter's remains to the family of his estranged wife, Mildred de los Santos, who has yet to arrive from Hong Kong where she works as a domestic helper.

Rene Uri, father of Perez, Vanessa May-Anne D. Uri in real life, told Inquirer Entertainment that his former wife's relatives wanted to take his daughter's body for a two-day wake in Quezon.

Perez died in a car crash on Thursday in Camarines Sur. She was 23.

Uri said that basketball player Anthony Cuevas, who claimed to have married the sexpot in civil ceremonies 11 days before she died, also wanted to claim the actress' body and bring the remains in Manila for a wake in the house where they lived.

The distraught father disclosed that all this happened while he was claiming Perez's body last Thursday at the Maria Eleazar District Hospital in Tagkawayan, Quezon where the actress was brought after the accident.

Uri insisted that he and his mother had raised and guided Perez so "it is unfair for somebody to just come out and claim any right on her remains."

He blamed his daughter's death on her showbiz career, which she pursued against his wishes.

"From the start, I was strongly opposed to Vanessa's entering show business because we wanted her to go to college," he said. "She would have been alive today had she not opted for showbiz against my will."

Uri explained that he had been in jail when his daughter joined show biz. He was convicted of illegal possession of firearms and served a jail term of more than two years.

He said she was already an actress when he was released from Muntinlupa.

"It was already too late for me and our family to get in the way of my daughter's career. We continued supporting and loving her as a daughter," Uri said.

The actress was unusually sad last Sunday, according to Uri.

"Her beautiful face looked unusually gloomy last Sunday. I felt (her sadness) deep inside, being her father," Uri said.

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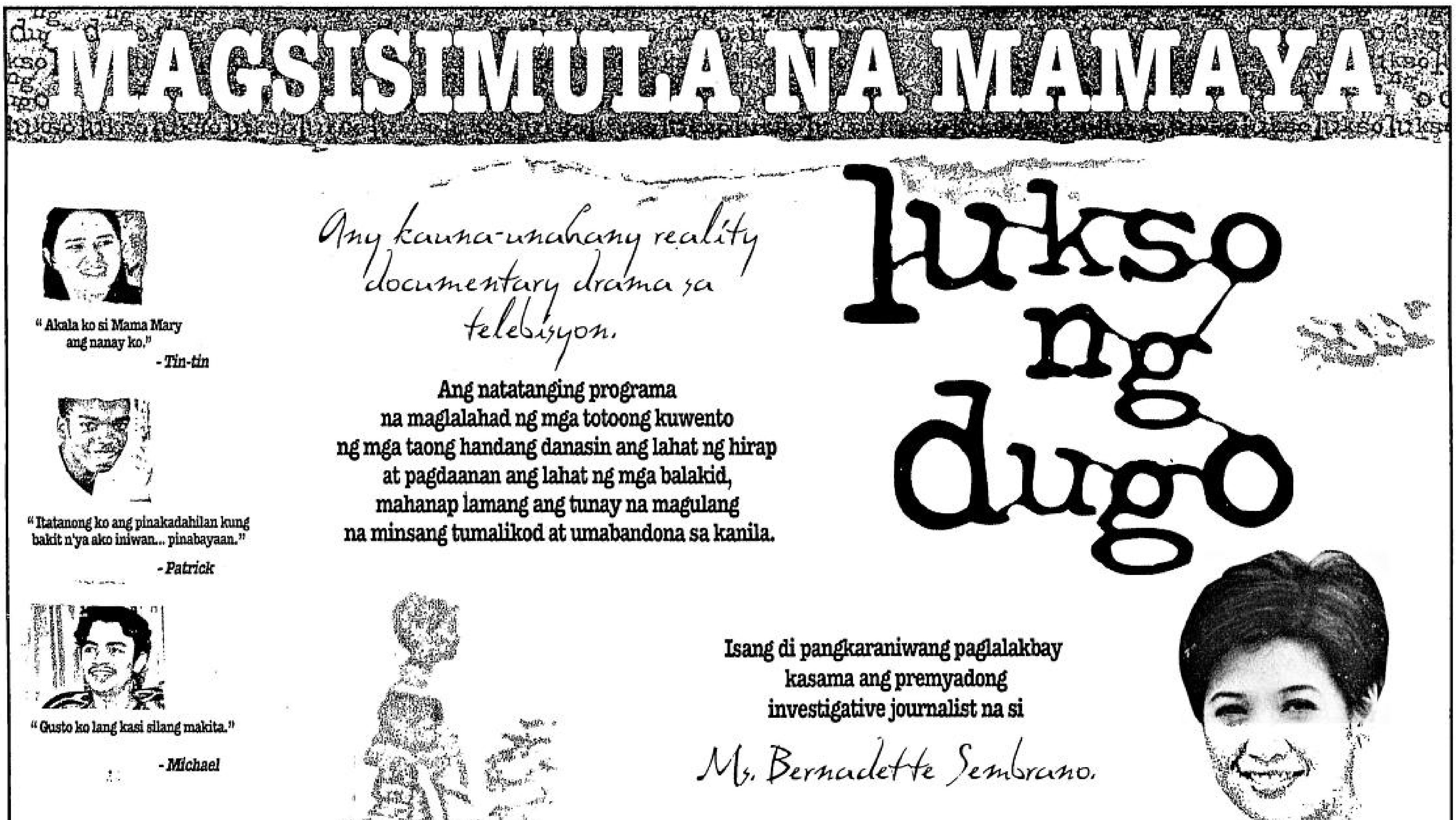


MAGSISIMULA NA MAMAYA.

" Akala ko si Mama Mary ang nanay ko."
- Tin-tin

" Itatanong ko ang pinakadahilan kung bakit n'ya ako iniwan... pinabayaan."
- Patrick

" Gusto ko lang kasi silang makita."
- Michael

Ang kauna-unahang reality documentary drama sa telebisyon.

Ang natatanging programa
na maglalahad ng mga totoong kuwento
ng mga taong handang danasin ang lahat ng hirap
at pagdaanan ang lahat ng mga balakid,
mahanap lamang ang tunay na magulang
na minsang tumalikod at umabandona sa kanila.

lukso ng dugo

Isang di pangkaraniwang paglalakbay
kasama ang premyadong
investigative journalist na si
Ms. Bernadette Sembrano.

Pagkatapos ng ASAP MANIA

Ang natatanging serye na kukumpleto
sa iyong pagkatao at magbubuklod sa
pamilyang Pilipino.

ABS-CBN

Cornering Joey Marquez: Are they back?

JUICE

Jo-Ann Q. Maglipon

I CAN hear many of you muttering: "Who cares?" But there must be as many of you totally intrigued by this, or why else would the cackling be so thick to this day?

Not a week goes by that I do not hear somebody claiming that somebody knows of somebody who saw **Kris Aquino** and **Joey Marquez** in Rockwell…in Canada…in Sanfo.

So: Are they back?

The subtext being: After their very ruinous, excruciatingly public fight, are they back?

Reporter **Anna Pingol** cornered Kris, just hours before the talk-show host was told by her doctors to shut down her vocal chords, and Kris answered that she can reply to that only when Joey's annulment from **Alma Moreno** is finally granted by the court. (Talk is rife that would be very soon.)

Meantime, I got Joey to talk to me, even if I half suspect that if he weren't running for Congress and didn't have to bother with the pesky press, he would've gone on sidelining my requests for an interview.

Ignoring his discomfort now, I start with the sightings. Have they really been everywhere?

"No. We've only been out once."

When?

"Last month."

In February? Kris' birth month?

Silence. Then, "It was a short dinner, with **John [Lapus]** and **Josh**."

May I ask how short?

"It was a 25-minute dinner."

A 25-minute dinner?

"Because I had an appointment."

What appointment could've possibly excused him?

MARQUEZ: 25-minute dinner with Kris last month

MELO BALINGIT COURTESY OF YES! MAGAZINE

Face and voice serious, he explains, "I had a caucus to attend about project activities for Parañaque."

And so it goes. For every answer I pry from him, I throw him a litany of questions first. Clearly, Mayor Joey Marquez is not the easiest interview in show biz.

He does say, "I'd like to be a gentleman to my opposite sex. I just want to keep quiet."

Just friends

But being dense—or being a reporter, which is probably the same thing—I ask ahead anyway.

They only had that one dinner in a restaurant, he swears.

As to the sightings abroad, they're also not true, he says, before adding: "Do you know that as a public official, I have to get permission from the Office of the President to travel?"

But when I ask if they have had private time together, out of the public eye, he becomes tight-lipped once more. He concedes only: "*Nagte-text kami… Kinukumusta ko siya… Mga* once a day. How are you?… *Ako nauuna mag-text.* As a friend, I care about what happens. *Walang malisya…* I ask about her career… *Nagte-text din siya…* She also asks how I am… How my campaign is."

(Be aware that these ellipses have a reason for being there. They indicate when I asked another question to extract another sentence. Mathematically, that means I asked eight questions, counting the first, to extract the little paragraph you just read.)

If they're friends, I go on, why be comfortable only with text messages?

"We're not comfortable to be seen together in public… We want everybody to feel at peace… We can't be seen together, nor be back together."

Because?

"*Una*, I belong to the other side of the tracks. I'm not socially acceptable… I wouldn't want people close to her to feel bad… Her mother will never accept me… Even if my marriage is annulled. I understand that… So I just want to be a friend to her."

How to define "friend"?

"An ally… *Pag may umaway sa kanya*, I'll be one of her defenders."

Why would he want that?

"Because we had something in the past."

The past that turned dark for him once?

"*Kaya nga* I'd like to erase the past. Forget the hurt. *Pero mahirap makalimutan.*"

Suing for peace

At a certain point in the interview, I begin thinking that the reason Joey, who is normally a comic, is so clipped and straight with his responses, is because he's afraid of provoking the voluble Kris.

Afraid that if, by fluke of language, he should say something cold or unflattering or simply inadequate, about the woman who once accused him of pointing a gun at her and called him a batterer before the whole country, he could get it from her. Again.

I don't make the point to him, but somewhere in the two hours we talked, he does say that **Roilo Golez**, the man he's battling it out with to represent Parañaque, has been peppering his rallies with: "*Iboboto niyo ba ang isang taong may* STD? *Iboboto niyo ba ang isang taong nambugbog ng babae, na anak pa ng ating mahal na dating Pangulong* **Cory Aquino**?"

Does he respond to Golez?

"*Paano*? I can't say what will hurt Kris. Never… Because I loved her."

I figure by then that reviving talk of a romance with Kris today will be reviving the ugliness that came before. Definitely, not a good thing during election season.

Still, I manage to ask what it is he truly liked about Kris.

A long pause, then these full sentences: "She loves her friends. She loves her family. She loves her son. She's generous to her people. She's thoughtful. She's dedicated to her profession."

At this point, **Douglas Quijano**, his manager, speaks up, "*Si* Kris, *maasikaso*, *malambing. Madaling mahalin.*"

I ask what it is that made him fall for Kris, exactly.

He hesitates, then says with a bit of a smile: "I do not know. It's a continuous curiosity."

I wait, and he adds: "*Maganda ang mga* conversations *namin. Siya magsasalita bilang siya, ako magsasalita bilang* politician. *Laging may magandang* exchange."

Chemistry? I prod.

Now he's smiling broadly: "Elements of atoms put together will come out into an atomic bomb."

Turning serious again, he says that he and Kris are not back, that what they have today is: "Friendship *lang*. Conversations *lang*."

Moreover, it's a friendship that doesn't extend to giving Kris advice, for instance, about her career.

"I used to do that. But I learned my lesson…I mean well, *pero naiiba ang dating*. I don't want to argue *na*. Every word that comes out of my mouth, *akala* offensive."

He doesn't spell it out, but my pick up is that his reference is to Kris' accusation that he kept putting her down and that he made her feel worthless.

He does say: "*Pag mahal mo, siyempre ang* comment *mo hindi panay papuri. Gusto mo malaman niya ang totoo. Pero iba ang dating sa kanya.*"

The real score

I ask: When his marriage is annulled, will he be marrying again?

"No," he answers quickly.

For how long? I ask.

"For life!" he says with a laugh.

Then his tone shifts: "I will marry again. But this time, I'll make sure it's for keeps."

I wonder aloud if he will ever be ready for that. I tell him that even now rumors are rife that he has gotten somebody from some bank pregnant. And that he's carrying on with two women at the same time.

He says, "*Hindi totoo iyan. Kahit na lang sa* level *ng* annulment *ko*. I will not do anything to jeopardize it."

I then ask: If he marries again, will it be Kris?

"Let's put it this way. I know what and who will make her happy… She described the qualities of the man to me."

And?

"I don't deserve her. I don't have the qualities of somebody who will make her happy… I am not the ideal man. I do not fit in her future."

At this point, the only thing waiting to be asked is: Does he still love Kris?

I am certain I hear him say "*Oo*."

But in the next breath, he repeats something he has said twice already: "*Kaya nga* I pray and I wish that she finds somebody. I really do. I will be the first to be happy for her when she finds the man for her."

And of his own happiness?

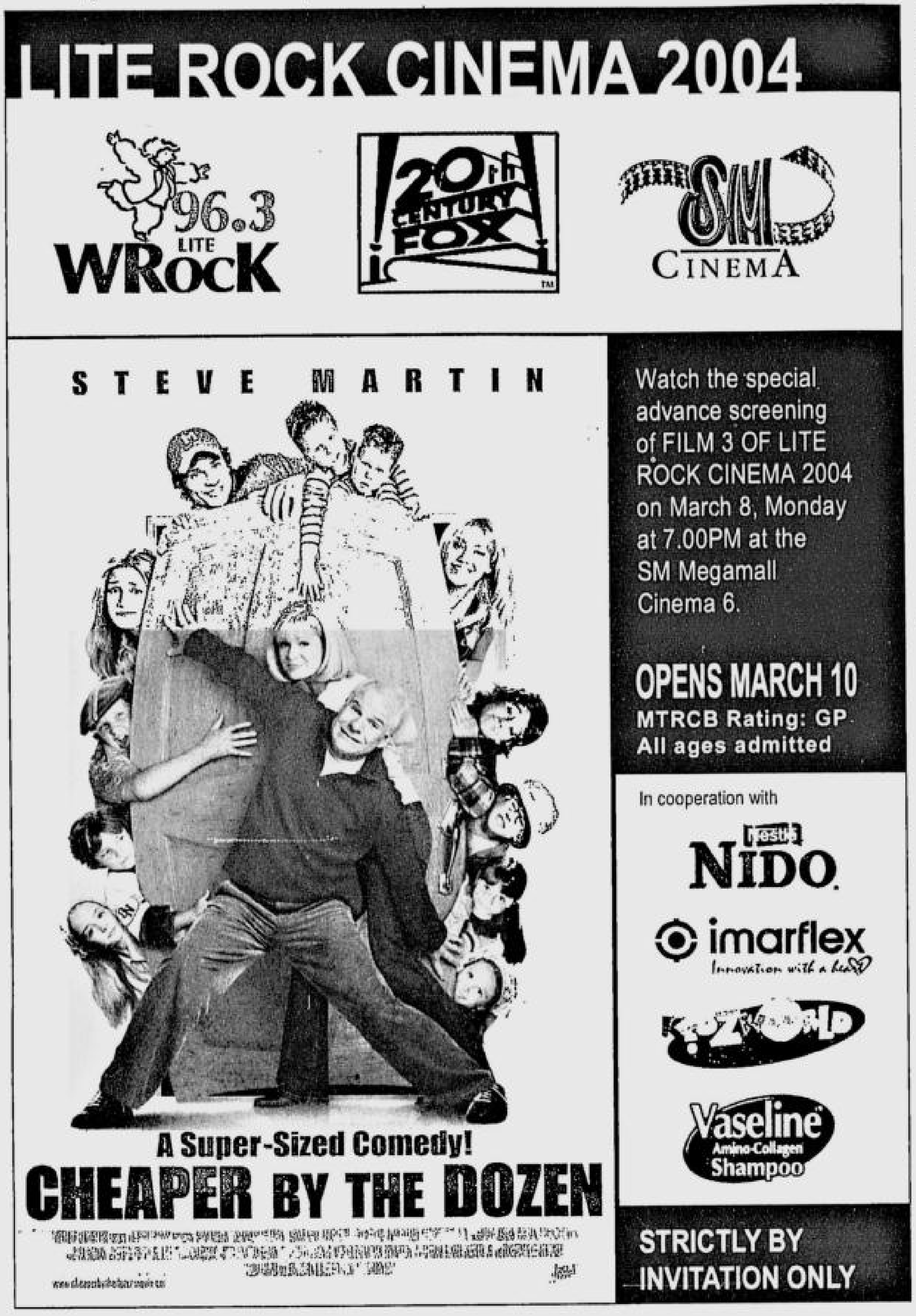
"I know my limitations. I know where I belong."

MARQUEZ and Kris when they were still a couple

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

Due to space limitations, Nestor Torre's Viewfinder will resume on Monday.



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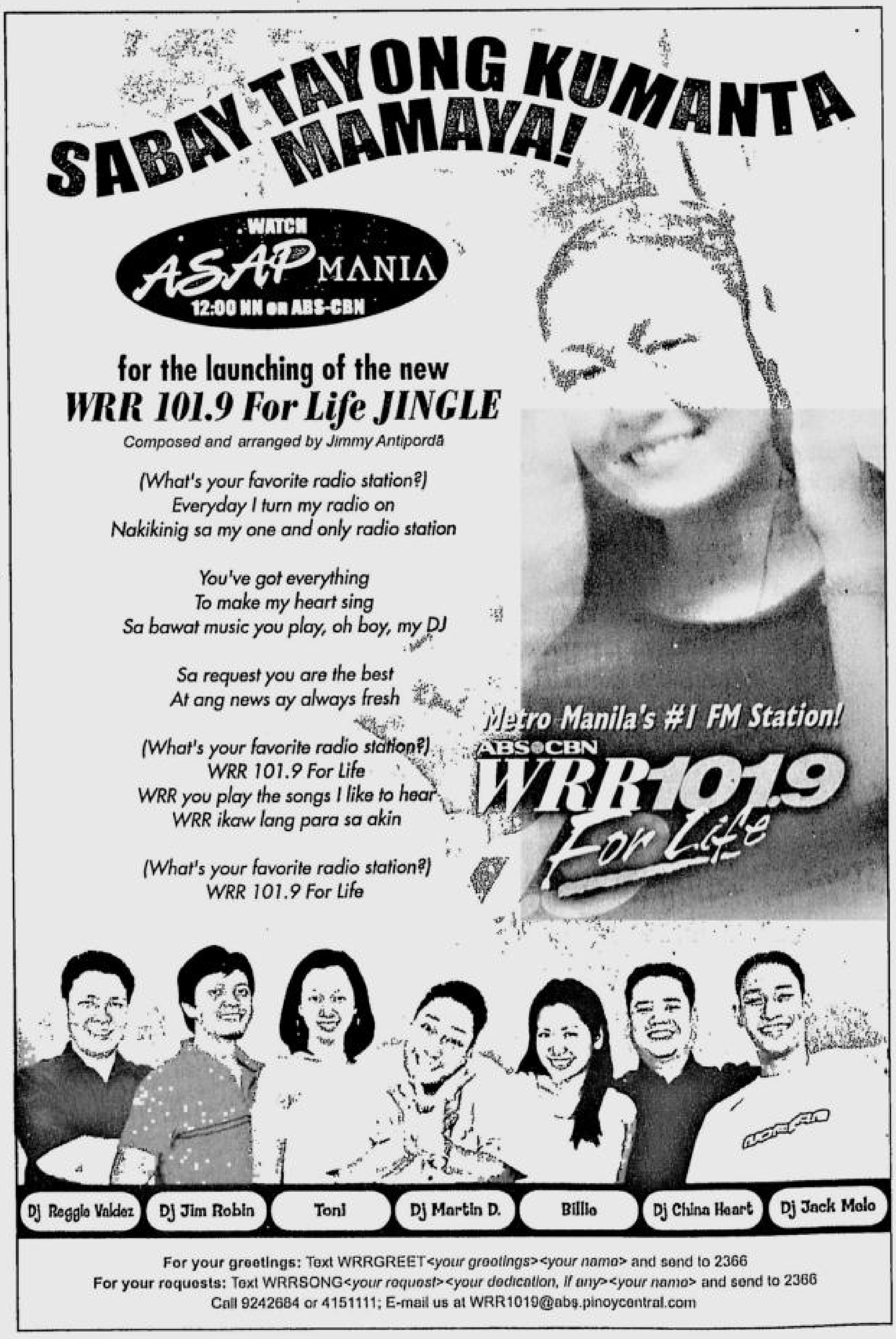

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BEA: Her Life's A Perfect Ten

It all began with a dream to fly. Bea Lucero would pass by the gymnasium at her school and admire the young girls flying in the air. She wanted to be just like them, so at the age of six, she told her parents that she wanted to take up gymnastics. As a little girl, Bea Lucero believed that it was a simple wish, yet it did not take very long for her to realize that she was gunning for a very big dream.

Flips and tumbles along the way

The world has seen Bea gracefully maneuver across the floor, swing with ease on the parallel bars, and move with poise on the balance beam. She was talent personified. Thus, it came as a big surprise when a coach commented when she was just starting out, "You have no talent whatsoever and should just quit." Bea admits to not being the most talented, but being the achiever that she is, she took her coach's words as a challenge and pushed herself even more. Years later, her hard work paid off and that same coach eventually returned to the Philippines to personally train her. If there was one lesson that this experience had taught her, it was that sometimes, hard work is more important than just talent.

Indeed, Bea is the epitome of a true winner with the heart of a real champion.

Bea coaching her young protégé on the balance beam

Winning is not about being number one. "It's about giving it your all," she enthuses.

A routine worthy of a perfect ten

As a young athlete, it was important that Bea got through the day-to-day challenges of her training, which is the hardest part of being a gymnast. "The trainings are extremely rigorous. It's just so tiring," she says. To add to the pressure of her daily routine was a very strict diet to control a body frame that was a little too big-boned for her sport. "I had to strictly watch my diet especially because I'm not naturally thin," she says of her built. "But I also needed enough energy to keep up with the demands of the sport." Given these parameters, she worked extra hard to keep up with the competitiveness of the sport. A healthy diet and an adequate source of energy were definite musts. "MILO plays an indispensable part in an athlete's daily routine in that it provides the energy needed to keep going throughout the training," says Bea. "MILO starts the day," she adds. With her goal-oriented mindset, discipline, and perseverance, Bea surely led a lifestyle worthy of a perfect ten.

Audrey getting ready to swing on the bars

Champion in the making

Following closely in Bea's footsteps is young gymnast, Audrey Muñoz. At the young age of 10, Audrey has already bagged seven gold medals at three Bea Lucero Gymnastics Cup tournaments. The rigorous daily training and rigid diet that come with the sport have done nothing but make her work harder and aim higher. Just like Bea, Audrey starts her day with a glass of MILO. Looking bright-eyed at her idol, she muses, "I want to be just like Bea." Without a doubt, Audrey is a future Olympic champion in the making, and with an idol and mentor like Bea, Audrey's first perfect ten performance is on its way.

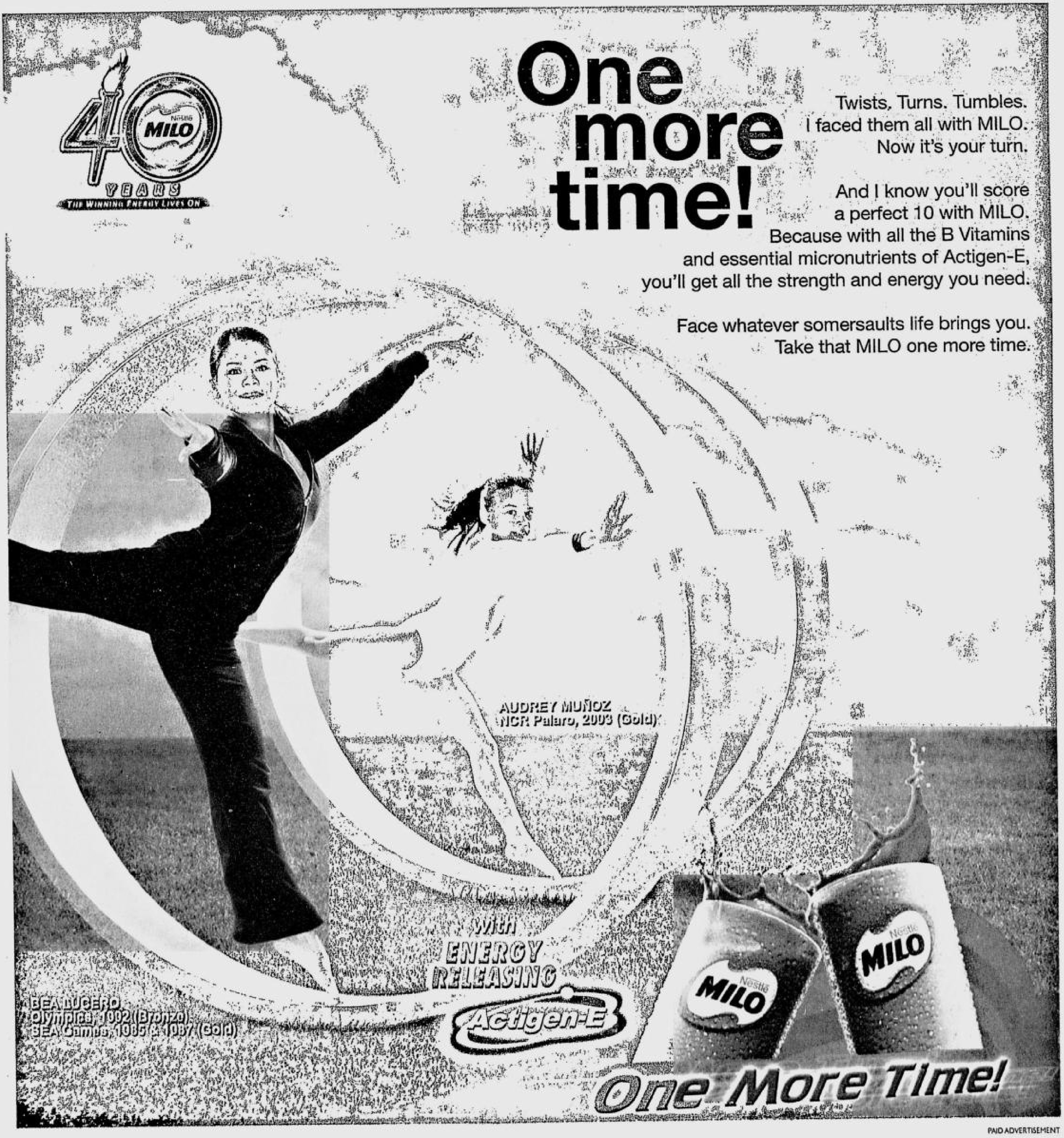
Bea and Audrey enjoying a break at Club Gymnastica

Graceful leap into motherhood

From being a little girl who simply wanted to fly, Bea lived out the Olympic dream that made her a gymnastics legend. Now, she is ready to put that life behind her to start living another one of her dreams – being a mother and a wife. As she moves on to the next chapter of her life, she ensures that the athlete in her will always be there. "I've been in sports since I was 6 and I've been with MILO for 19 years. I think that until the day I die, I'm still going to take all those memories of being an athlete with me. Gymnastics has done so much for me," Bea says with a fulfilled smile.

The imprints that gymnastics has left in Bea's life will carry her through the next chapter of her life. As she makes a leap into motherhood, we can only look with proud smiles knowing that her life's next performance will be just as worthy of a perfect ten.

Bea breaks into a perfect 10 smile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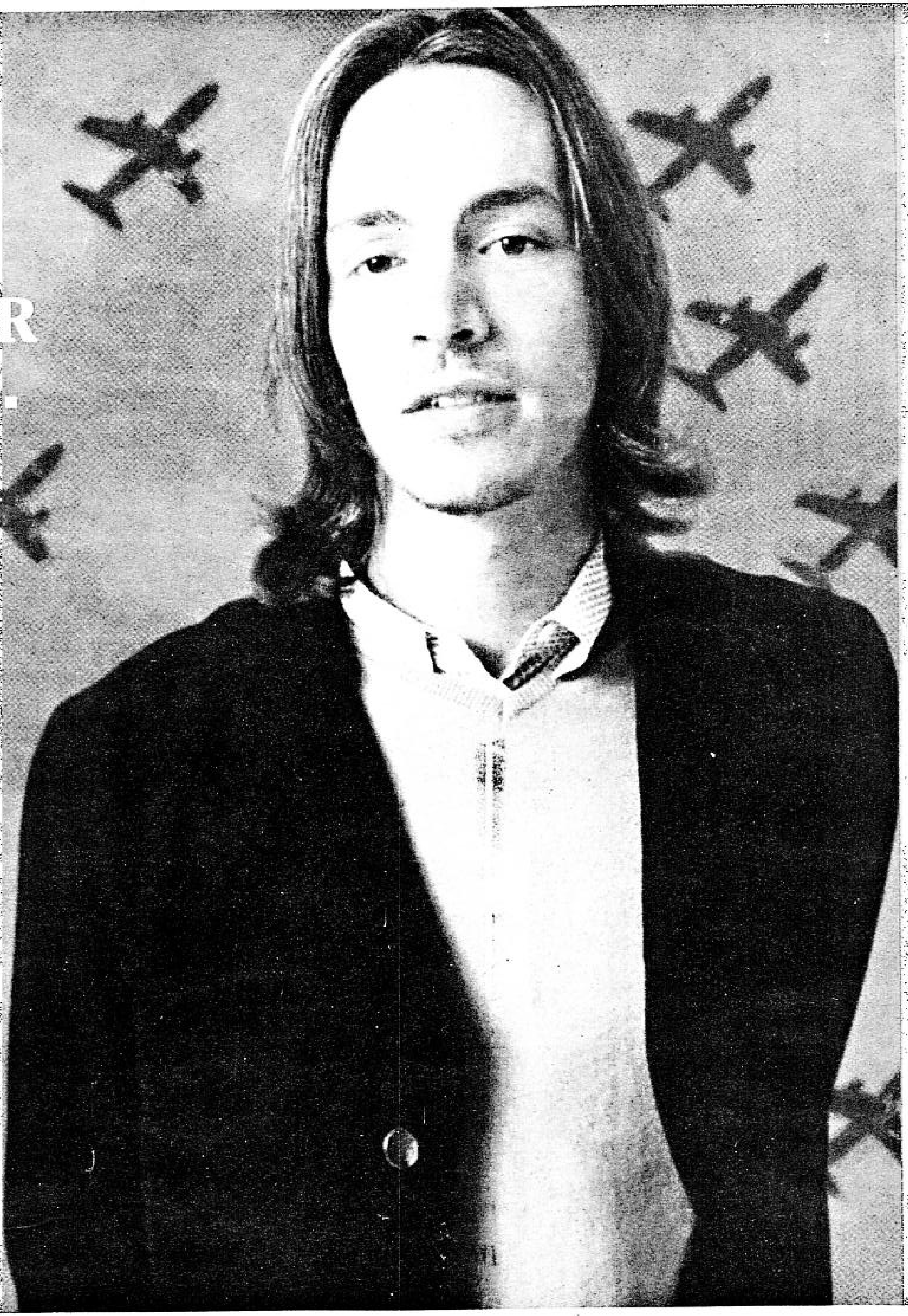

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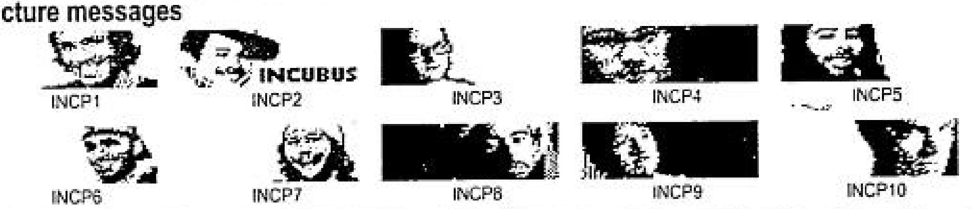

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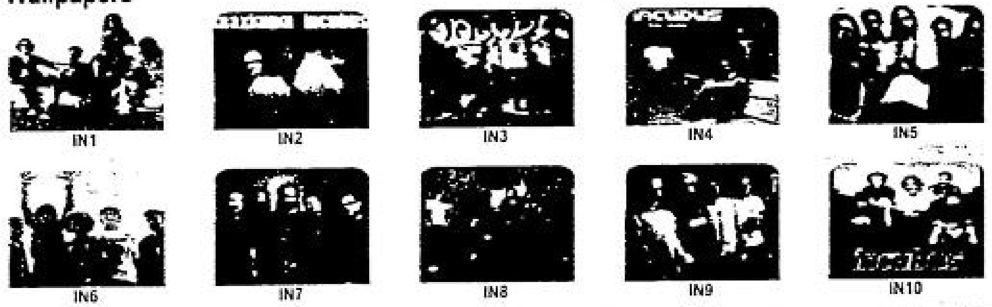

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Editor **Chelo Banal-Formoso**

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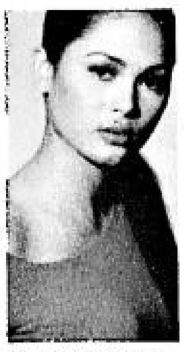
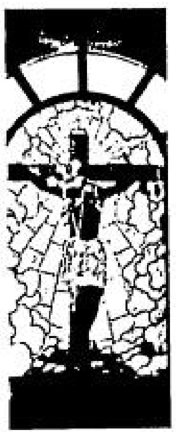


KRISTINE Hermosa lights up in tees /F1

SEA Princess on top of the world /F2

TAGAYTAY love affair: Lim-Santos nuptials /G1



LIFESTYLE goes to Vigan (Part 2) /H1

EDITOR'S rave BOARD

Mission 'impossible is nothing'

GOOD advertising campaigns are hard to come by these days when most companies are penny-pinching to keep afloat. And so we applaud what the sports brand Adidas has come up with as a lead-up to this year's Olympics to be held in Athens, Greece.

Last Sunday Adidas presented "The Long Run," the first in its powerful TV, print and outdoor ad campaign conveying the message that "Impossible is nothing."

The ad shows a young Muhammad Ali on one of his morning runs—huffing, puffing and blowing us all away with his looks. But, wait, the athlete supreme is not running alone under the African sky. More familiar figures are jogging behind and alongside him: football superstars David Beckham and Zinedine Zidane, basketball hotshot Tracy McGrady, swimming hero Ian Thorpe, Olympic sprinter Maurice Greene, running legend Haile Gebrselassie and boxing world crown champ Laila Ali.

Why did Adidas pick these athletes? Well, besides looking darn good in Adidas (Beckham gets my top vote), they are among the most inspiring people in sports. When given the brushoff because they didn't look the part, they kept plugging away until they proved to themselves and the world that anything and everything could be overcome.

Nothing is impossible, of course, when you're a leading global brand like Adidas. The creative process behind the making of "The Long Run" involved taking stock footage from Ali's Zaire training about 30 years ago, shooting his famous and younger jogging mates on a treadmill in a studio and meticulous editing so what flashes on the screen is a seamless scene of sports stars from different generations running together.

The campaign, which also includes a series of 30 spots telling individual stories, is a splendid showcase of the leading Olympians and sports pros whom Adidas has dressed and equipped over the years.

I love the one where Laila Ali is in the ring with her dad. It's witty and delightful. Laila is digitally added into a fight footage of the One who Stings Like a Bee and even manages to hit him.

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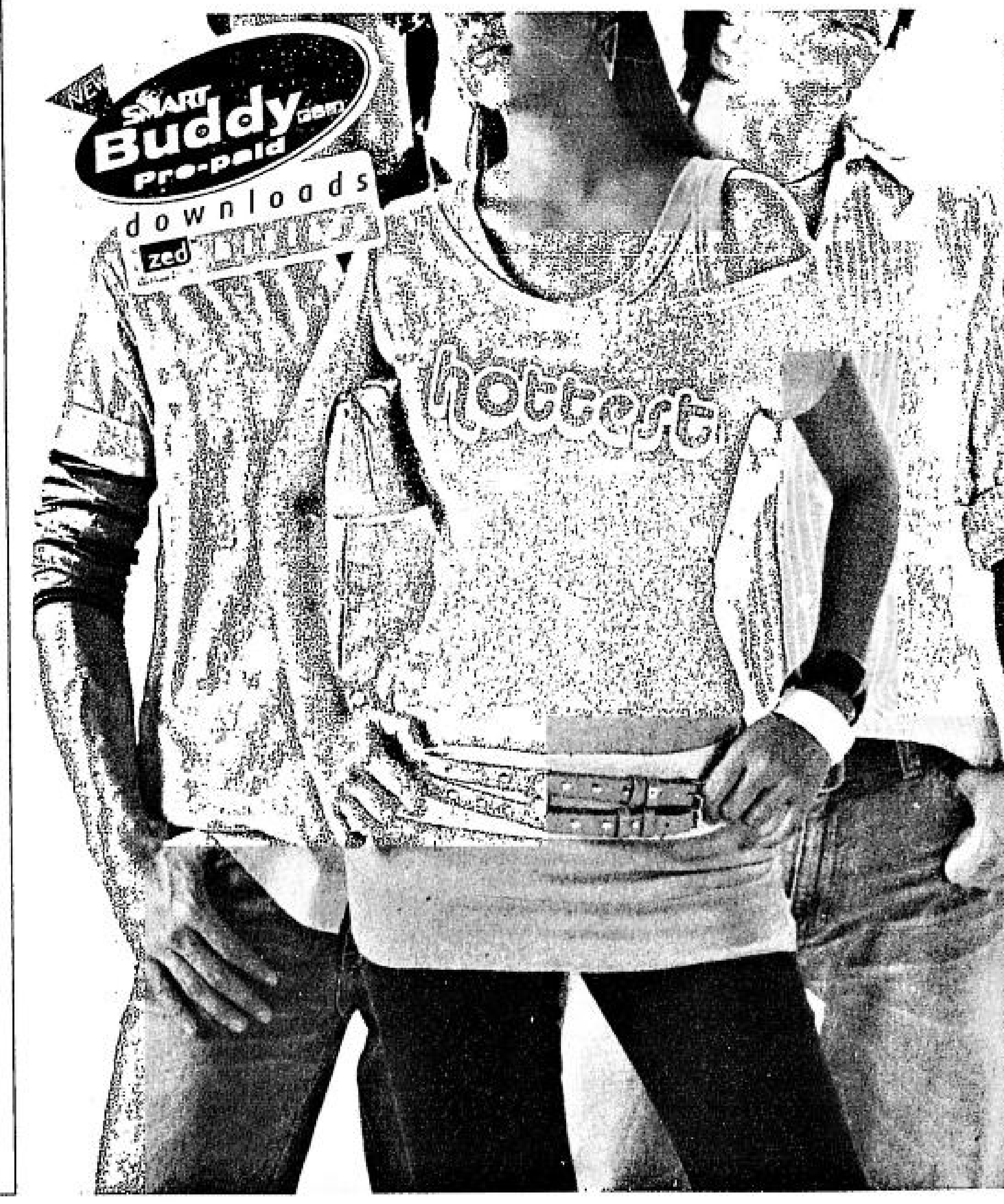
SURPASSING limits: (clockwise) Laila broke the gender barrier in boxing; McGrady became the youngest NBA top scorer, Beckham signed up with Real Madrid against all odds; the stellar team running with Muhammad Ali, all in Adidas

Skateboarding champion Steve Kohut, on the other hand, talks about how "impossible" came to him by way of an accident that kept him confined to a wheelchair.

To top off this campaign, Adidas has issued the "Impossible is Nothing Challenge." If you have achieved what they said was not achievable, tell Adidas your story. Entries will be accepted from March 13 to April 25. The grand prize is a trip to the USA to watch Kevin Garnett and Tim Duncan in the NBA playoffs.

Find out more about this contest from any Adidas store or log on to www.adidas.com/impossible.

CBF



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13 214 *Rivermaya* **TONE 214**
14 Where Is The Love *Black Eyed Peas* **TONE WERISLUV**
15 Spaghetti Song *Sexvbomb Dancers* **TONE SPAG**
16 I'll Be *Edwin McCain* **TONE IBE**
17 God Is A DJ *Pink* **TONE DJGOD**
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THE AUSTRALIAN Embassy's deputy head of mission Miles Armitage and his wife Ma. Elena

ALICE Plaza, Ben Jones, Chuck Morgan, Adam Pache, Janet Seidel, David Seidel and Jaime Chua

ALL set for "Sleeping Beauty," committee chairs Vivina Yrastorza, Elena Young, Teresing Mendezona and Fe Sala Villarica

Well-attended jazz concert of Janet Seidel

CEBU CEBU

Jaime Picornell

THE Australian Embassy and the Arts Council of Cebu presented jazz singer **Janet Seidel** in a concert at SM City's Theater One. It was a standing-room-only event.

Janet Seidel is a multi-awarded artist who can sing like **Doris Day** or **Peggy Lee**, or any of the chanteuses of yesteryears. And she sings those oh-so-familiar songs of old with her inimitable clarity of diction, and ultra melodic timbre of voice. Her records sell like the proverbial hot cakes, as her CDs put for sale at the entrance proved.

The Australian Embassy's deputy head of mission **Miles Armitage** came with his wife **Ma. Elena** for this occasion, and met the Arts Council trustees led by president **Petite Garcia** at the pre-concert cocktails at the theater lobby. Roundly congratulated for the success of the event were chair **Jaime Chua** and **Alice Plaza**.

Janet charmed everyone with her innate elegance, posing for photos, and accommodating every request for an autograph. Equally affable were the members of her excellent Jazz band—her brother **David Seidel** (double bass), **Ben Jones** (sax), **Adam Pache** (drums) and **Chuck Morgan**, who plays the guitar and has eyes only for Janet.

From the first song—"Slow below float to China"—rapport was established with the audience, and all through a whole repertoire that evoked memories for both young and old. Every number received great applause.

Everyone wants to know when she's coming back. The night after Janet Seidel's performance, Cebu had **Michael Bublé**, and those who went to both events said she was the better one. Not just her delivery, put the perfect timing and precision of her accompaniment. And also, they were all so utterly nice. The after-concert dinner was quite lively.

No sooner had the echoes of all that jazz faded when the Arts Council hosted two film festivals. The fifth Israeli film festival was held on the first weekend of February, and it was a great success, with a lot of students attending.

On the last weekend of February it was the Second Chinese Film Festival, sponsored by the Consulate General of the People's Republic of China at SM Theater One. Consul General **Wu Liangi** hosted pre-screening cocktails on opening day, and after the showing of "Judge Mom," gave an intimate dinner at the most elegant watering place in town, Olio, at Crossroads.

For two weekends in March, the Arts Council and Ballet Center are presenting the full-length "Sleeping Beauty" ballet.

Based on the immortal fairy tale by **Charles Perrault**, it dates to 1890 when first presented by the Russian Imperial Ballet in St. Petersburg. The music is among the best composed by **Tchaikovsky**, and choreography for this presentation is the original by **Marius Petipa**.

Fe Sala Villarica, founder of Ballet Center (in 1951) and the Arts Council (in 1960) is on top of this production's every aspect. The staging and direction is by one of her most gifted alumni—**Noordin Jumalon**, a principal of the ballet school at the Cultural Center of the Philippines.

Remaining playdates are on March 8 at Theater One of SM City, 3 p.m., and March 13, 8 p.m.

Guest artists from Ballet Philippines will dance the lead roles—**Mica Bernas** as Princess Aurora, and **Biag Daongen** as Prince Florimund. Principal dancers of the Queen City Chamber Ballet **Sheila Lendio** and **Mariejan Pestaño** alternate as the Lilac Fairy, and take on various roles in the production.

The Wicked Fairy Carabosse is alternately done by **Benjie Diola** and **Joe Galeon**, with **Dominique Riegel** as the Queen, plus **Karl Hudson** and **Bunny Pages** in the role of the King. We've heard that event chair **Vivina Yrastorza** and finance chair **Elena Young** are thinking of bringing "Sleeping Beauty" to other parts of the Visayas.

There are more events in the Arts Council calendar. On March 17, at SM Theater One, it will be Canadian jazz singer **Lise Villenuéve**. The same venue has been booked for Seeds of the Sun, a jazz group from Israel who will perform on April 22.

Being discussed for a June perchance is Triode, not a jazz group, but a trio composed of piano, **Albert Tiu**; violin, **Joseph Esmilla**; and cello, **Sean Katsuyama**. Their repertoire includes a number of tangos.

What's better than two to tango? Three, for sure.

YOUNG graduates of arts and crafts classes

PAINTING lessons for kids

Educational and fun summer courses

ENROLLMENT for Second Mom's Summer thrillers 2004, April 12-May 24, is now going on.

Classes to be held at Dormitory I, Philsports Complex (beside Brent School), Ugong, Pasig City, are open to toddlers and nursery, kindergarten and preparatory school pupils.

Courses offered are:

Arts and crafts (5-10 years old). Paper art, candle making, painting, ribbon making, bead art, novelty items, applique, mosaic art, basic sewing stitches, decoupage, silk screening flower making, etc. (inclusive of materials).

Painting for kids and adults (group A, 4-13 years old; group B, 14 and above). Drawing and painting still life objects, portrait and figure, techniques in handling pencil and pen, sketching live models, outdoor painting of landscape and seascape, etc. By Pol S. Mesina, Jr.

Playgroup (group A, 1.6-2.7 years old). Promotes social interaction and allows initial exposure to a setup rich in stimulating and varied activities. Designed for toddlers entering preschool. Group B (2.8-4 years old)—preschoolers can enjoy creative cooking, literacy through storytelling, arts and crafts, science and math, music and movement, etc.

Storyland series (group A, 5-7 years old; group B, 8-12 years old). Introduces children to story appreciation, increases vocabulary, reading and language skills.

Prose early interactive reading (incoming Grades I-III pupils). Provides students with enjoyable reading-based individual partner and small group multi-sensory activities.

Prosec academic proficiency (incoming Grades III-VII pupils). Helps student sharpen skills in reading, writing and vocabulary building.

All about music (groups of four to six; group A, 5-13 years old). Group voice lessons, including choreographed singing; (group B, 9 years old and above) basic guitar group lessons.

Acting workshop (7-15 years old). By the Philippine Educational Theater Association.

Call 6359743 or 6352002.

New health clinic in Pasig

CHI-MED Asia, a health clinic that specializes in the prevention of degenerative diseases, will open its newest branch today at 3 p.m. A program titled "Personal Health in the 21st Century" will be held at Green Valley Country Club, Valle Verde I along E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave. (C-5), Ugong, Pasig.

Presentations on Integrative Medicine Approach and New Choices on Personal Health will be explained by its medical staff headed by medical director, Dr. Rosario Austria together with Drs. Marie Alonzo, Sharon Rebong, Charissa Salud.

Training the third eye to improve quality of life

ISIS is an interactive process between the client and facilitator. The facilitator helps rid the client of unwanted baggage and to sink deep into his or her issues.

MORE than being surrounded by such peripherals as money, house, time and companions, quality of life is determined by one's consciousness, readiness to take on the challenges of life and gratitude for blessings.

Heightened quality of life goes far beyond the physical; it has to do with the way one lives life on all levels. In this connection, the workshop, "Awakening the Third Eye," seeks to provide tips on improving one's quality of life. It will be held on March 27 and 28 at the ABS CBN Training Hall, 13/L, ELJ Bldg., Lopez Drive, Quezon City. Workshop fee is P1,500 and covers snacks.

The third eye is a non-physical organ. Located between the eyebrows, it is a gate which leads to inner worlds. It allows you to know yourself in a depth that surpasses all conventional methods of psychotherapy and other mind sciences.

The workshop will cover such areas as:

- Daily third eye meditation. If done regularly, it will improve your energy level and make you cope with stress
- Techniques to shield yourself from potentially energy-draining situations
- Techniques to tune into higher spaces so you can have a better grasp of situations and make better decisions
- Techniques to shield yourself from computers and other technologies
- Night practice or vision sleep, a 30-minute energizer which can be done during the day and can greatly improve the quality of your sleep.
- Effective communication techniques that will make you better relate with others.

Specially crafted music will be played during the workshop to awaken energy fields.

The workshop is a precursor to the 10-day Inner Space Interactive Sourcing (Isis) workshop on April 1-10 at the Lopez Center in Antipolo.

Dynamic system

Isis is a dynamic system involving pairs: a client and a connector. It seeks to release emotional blockages to personal growth. Only those who attended the third-eye workshop can attend the Isis program. The Isis is especially beneficial for those into counseling and healing.

Personal one-on-one sessions can be made on April 12-16.

Writer Agnes Prieto shares her experience with Isis:

"I was in dire straits during the Christmas season. A beloved son had just died six months before. The season plunged me into terrible despair. There seemed no way beyond the wall of grief. My sorrow had become physical: my limbs were so in pain, I could barely walk.

"Gina called. She had just been to Australia and wanted to share what she had learned at the Clairvision School. I dragged myself to her house and submitted myself to a process called Isis, not knowing what to expect. In less than two hours, the Isis had expunged the wailing and keening inside me.

"Though I still grieved, I was no longer paralyzed. In fact, I flexed my muscles—the pain was gone, my being was light. Over the next few days, I would be amazed at how much progress I made. The most important part was letting go. I knew I would always love Xave, but I was in the here and now, I would face my life without him.

"Three more sessions would follow, two of them with Matteus, the Isis expert from the school. In a couple of weeks I was renewed. Isis goes deep into the subconscious, allowing what is suppressed to be dealt with, swiftly but in loving care. It clears us of the emotional and psychic baggage we carry without our even knowing it sometimes, and enables us to be truly in the present, with strength and clarity of mind and spirit."

The book "Awakening the Third Eye, Regression and Atlantean Secrets Vol. 1" is recommended. Call and text 0920-8519717. E-mail clair_vision@abs-cbn.com

ISIS is especially beneficial to those into counseling and healing.

BERNARD Kohling, Gina Lopez, Johnny Litton, French Ambassador Renée Veyret

FERNANDO and Kitkat Zobel

SWEDISH Embassy minister and deputy head Ulf Walden (right) and Ayse Muge Walden

SWEDISH Ambassador Annika Markovic with daughters Vera and Sofia PHOTOS: BETOY JOHNSON

Embassy row still in celebratory mood

From page D4

lovely in aqua, romancing the guests with nostalgic songs.

Guests included Italian Ambassador Umberto Colesanti; German Ambassador Herbert Jess; Ambassador **Bienvenido Tantoco** with his daughters **Nedy** and **Marilen Valbuena**; **Chito Collantes** and niece **Chuchu Eduque**; Ambassador **Jesus** and **Marge Tambunting**; businessman **Wash Sycip**; **Fernando** and **Kitkat Zobel**; **Paz Yuchengco** and **Mila Magsaysay Valenzuela**.

The launch, appropriately enough, included a raffle of three watches, donated by Rustan's—a Charriol won by lucky **Bing Rodriguez**, Façonnable won by **Edith Dichao**, and a Maurice Lacroix by **Alana Montelibano**. We should do this more often, don't you think?

Charity wine auction

Hardworking glamour girl **Tita Trillo**, the doyenne at Anthony's Wines (as if you didn't know), thought it a super idea to host at Peninsula's Old Manila an unforgettable dinner that included the auction of eight bottles of vintage Mouton Rothschild donated by the Baron Philippe de Rothschild.

Unfortunately, the baron was indisposed and could not come. The beneficiary being Bantay Bata, it was no wonder that **Gina Lopez** was looking thrilled that evening with some half a million pesos raised for her favorite charity.

Selected guests who bid for the wines were first pampered with delicacies such as *foie gras*, coral trout, wild mushrooms and canon of lamb, enhanced by various Mouton Rothschild vineyard wines, before the start of the auction. There's nothing like softening them up before the big sale.

New ambassador

You have to admit it's difficult to maintain your weight and even more difficult to diet with all the eating we do around here. Note that chefs are seldom thin.

At a special Swedish embassy-hosted dinner by newly arrived Ambassador **Annika Markovic** and her husband, **Drasko**, at the Shangri-La, the smorgasbord of Scandinavian cuisine from Sweden, Denmark, Norway and Finland proved impossible to resist.

Young Finnish chef **Ulf Danielsson** took time out to explain that: no, the salmon wasn't harvested (there's a controversy at the moment about farm-bred salmons) but was fresh from the ocean, and the garlic trout was excellent (it was). The fresh perch from the Baltics was also to die for.

During dinner, guests were serenaded by the internationally known Swedish jazz band Sveriges, with Danish singer **Susanne Cal** singing the blues. Their sounds made it even easier to finish the prime rib and the sinful chocolate desserts. Prizes were raffled off as well, such as SAS tickets, Swedish crystal and "Snaps" collections.

Some announcements

- Alliance Française de Manille announces the opening of its new annex across the AF building at the International Design Center.
- Until April 11, an exhibit at the National Museum, "The Philippines: Gateway to the Orient, from Legazpi to Malaspina." The show features a collection of 200 original paintings, china, furniture and other artifacts from Spain from the 16th century. Many of the artifacts date back to the galleon trade.

ANTON San Diego and Irene Francisco

ITALIAN Ambassador Umberto Colesanti and German Ambassador Herbert Jess

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Embassy row still in celebratory mood

DIPLOMATIC SWIRL

By Amiga

THERE wasn't much respite after the holidays with the Mexican embassy celebrating two events on the same day at the Inter-Con.

It started with the opening of an exhibit by Mexican artist **Jorge Alberto Palacios**, "American Gold," held at the lobby Art Café. Owners of this young man's paintings of intensely colored exotic flowers and birds include former United States President **George Bush Sr.**, the Vatican, Japanese Emperor **Akihito**. Rather an impressive list.

Cutting the ribbon were Mexican Ambassador **Enrique Hubbard**, Inter-Con general manager **Stefan Voogel**, Ambassador **Enrique Syquia** and Italian Ambassador **Umberto Colesanti**.

On the same day, Mexico celebrated Dia del Galleon at the poolside's Sol y Sombra. The occasion commemorated the galleon trade between Acapulco and Manila.

A fiesta means, of course, lots of tequila, tacos and salsa to the enjoyment of Argentine Ambassador **Mario** and Mme. **Sylvia Schuff**, Honorary Consul to Guatemala **Mellie Ablaza** and husband **Louie, Raul Concepcion**, Brazilian Counselor **Carlos Carvalho**, Czech Ambassador **Stanislav Slavicky**.

Anticipated event

After the holidays, concerts resumed at the residence of German Ambassador **Herbert** and Mme. **Michelin Jess**, an event that the diplomatic corps and their various friends look forward to with much anticipation.

The year opened with the indefatigable **Ingrid Santamaria** and US-based **Reynaldo Reyes**, who thrilled the audience with their romantic concertos from Schumann and Rachmaninoff.

Incredibly, the two had already done 26 performances by then (119 concerts in three years), bringing music to various schools on Metro Manila.

Thai heroes

The Royal Thai Armed Forces Day honoring Thailand's heroes was marked in January by Thai Ambassador **Busba Bunnag** and Group Captain **Permkiat Lavanamal**, Defense and Air attaché of the Thai embassy, at Dusit Hotel Nikko.

Ambassador Bunnag lauded the Philippine-Thailand relationship, citing the visit of Thai Prime Minister **Thaksin Shinawatra** last September and the transfer of four units of Royal Thai Air Force OV-10 planes to the Philippine Air Force.

Republic Day

India's charming and hardworking ambassador **Nevrekha Sharma** led the celebration of her country's 55th Republic Day at her residence. There was a lavish display of Indian food and culture. Foreign Affairs Sec. **Delia Albert** represented the government.

Guests were especially entertained by the 10-member Odissi Dance Troupe that performed classical dances. Led by dancer-choreographer **Sharmila Biswas**, the group will perform at the Cultural Center of the Philippines and the University of the Philippines.

The Indian celebration continued with lectures in early February by the president and trustee of the Sarvodaya International Trust, Ambassador **P.A. Nazareth**, who spoke on Mahatma Gandhi and his legacy at Ateneo de Manila University, UP and Asian Institute of Management.

Book on watches

Philippine Tatler publisher **Irene Francisco** and editor **Anton San Diego** have become the persons to call when you want to launch a product or hold a party that is festive, sophisticated and always elegant.

Members of the diplomatic corps and Manila's fashionistas were on hand to help them celebrate the launch of their own publication, "The World of Time," a super reference book on all you need to know about watches—the history, collecting and, of course, care of these timepieces.

Like diamonds, some watches, like Charriol, Bulgari, Chopard, Audemars Piguet and Tag Heuer, are forever.

It was dry martinis from beginning to end at the Mandarin Oriental with **Johnny Litton** and **Maurice Arcache** as emcees and **Menchu Yulo**,

EMBASSY/ D3

GROUP Capt. Permkiat Lavanamal, his wife Dungkae (left) and Thai Ambassador Busba Bunnag

PHOTOS: BETOY JOHNSON

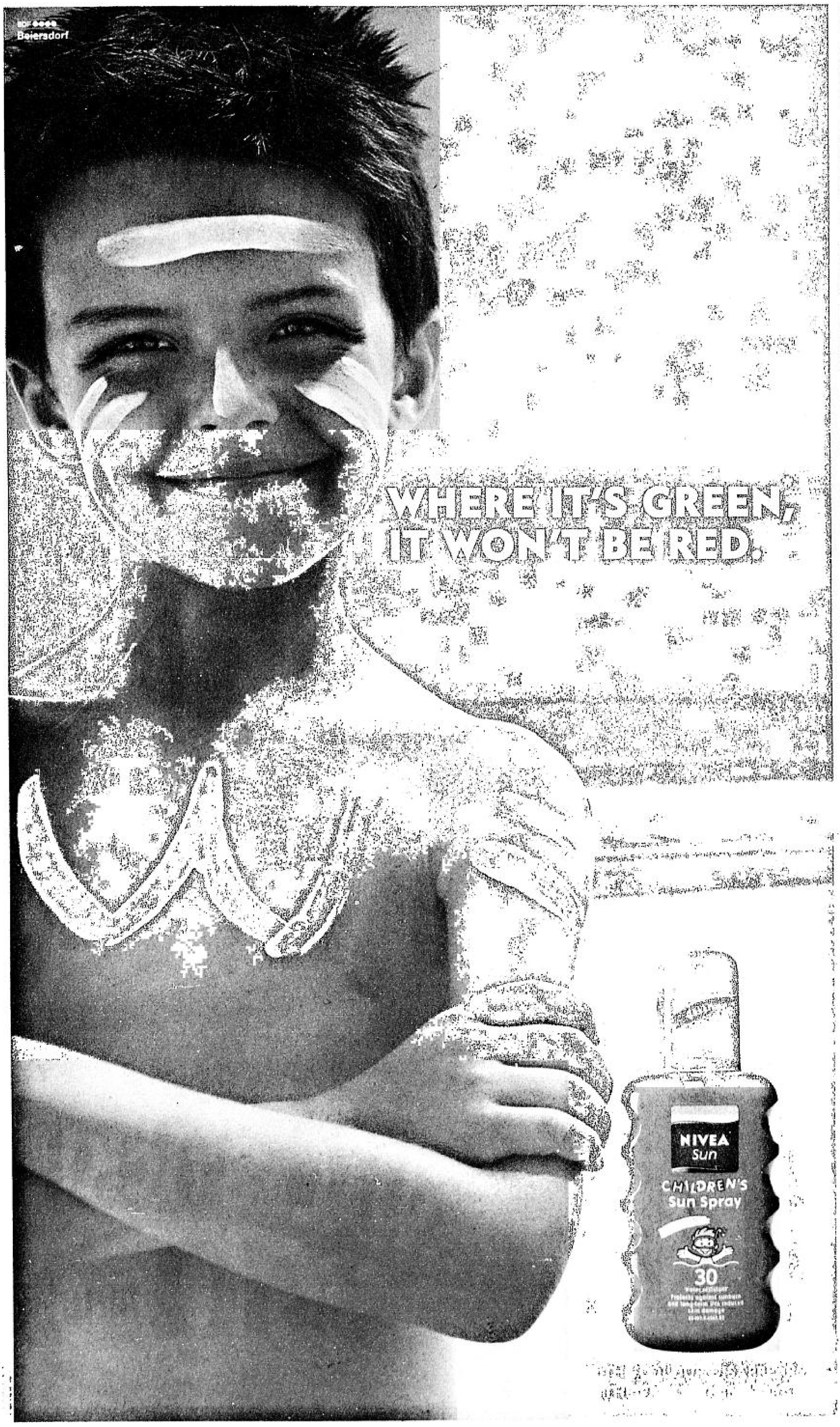
MYANMAR Ambassador U Tin Htun and Mme. Daw Nan Phaung

BRITISH Council director Gill Westaway and Valentina Nebogatova

DIMPY Singh and Australian Ambassador Ruth Pearce

FINLAND Ambassador Raimo Anttola and Mme. Eija-Liisa Anttola

LAOS Ambassador Phiane Philakone and Cambodia Embassy First Secretary Theam Sothy



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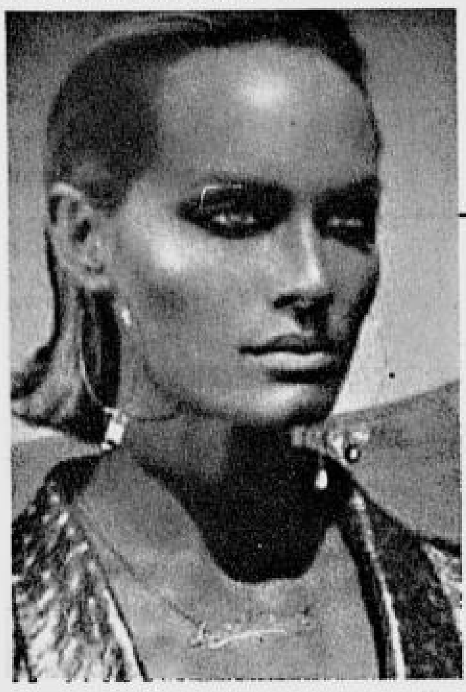
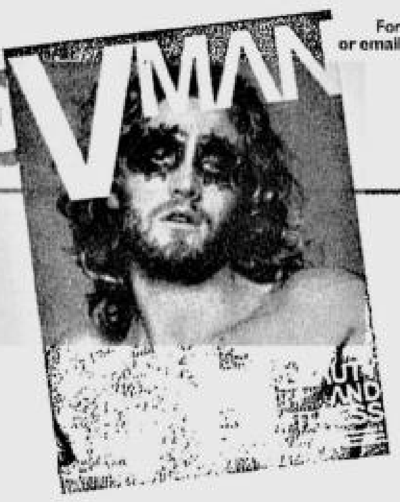


MUST-HAVE accessories—Louis Vuitton ID necklace

THE FINAL episode of "Sex and the City." After six years, the popular TV series has said goodbye.



STEPHEN Gan has come up with another winner: a lifestyle/fashion/design magazine for men called VMan

Gan tries men's mag, Hung rocks

T'NT
TRENDS & TRENDINGS

Anton San Diego

HOT off the press–VMan. Filipino Stephen Gan, the editor and creative genius behind V, Visionaire (and currently the creative director of US Harper's Bazaar), has come up with another feather on his cap: a lifestyle/fashion/design magazine for men, VMan.

In an interview, Gan says the magazine is for "men who have money, are young and cool, have wide-eyed openness to style, fashion, design and who are interested in a new openness of 'male chic.' Think **Karl Lagerfeld** meets **David Beckham** meets a young executive, we'd like to think all these aspects are covered."

I have read the magazine and it is visually arresting and a recent addition to my list of magazines-to-have!

Must-have accessories—Louis Vuitton ID necklace. Ever since Carrie first wore it in "Sex and the City," the ID necklace or nameplate has been adored by every fashionista all over the world. For its spring-summer collection and in celebration of its 150th anniversary, fashion giant LV has come up with its own version that is hotter than hot! The necklace, which comes in 18K gold and diamond, has a $2,000 price tag. If you can't afford it, jewelers in the city will be more than happy to come up with your own name plate.

Tom Ford's "final bow" at Gucci. If there is one fashion designer in the world that I love: It's Tom Ford. Last Wednesday he showed his last collection (fall/winter 2004) for Gucci. According to fashion insiders, it was his classiest and best show. Every outfit was perfect and the clothes reflected his 10-year reign as Gucci's top honcho. He took his final bow, after kissing his long-time partner (Vogue Hommes editor **Richard Buckley**), under a shower of pale rose pink petals.

Ten years ago, Gucci was just a leather goods house that was on the brink of bankruptcy. Today, it is one of the most important, successful and in-demand labels in the world.

Men and women went crazy for his designs because they oozed sex and glamour and he had a pulse on the current generation. No one knows who his successor will be, though whispers abound that it is his **No. 2, Stefano Pilati.**

With his departure, every fashionista is buying up his S/S 2004 fashion, shoes

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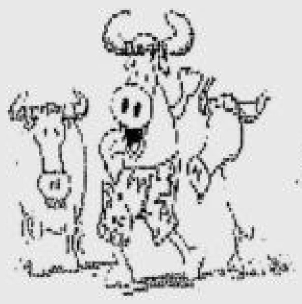

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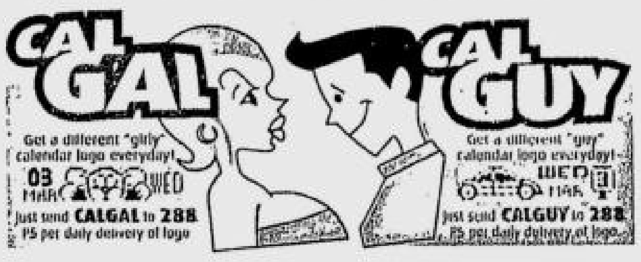

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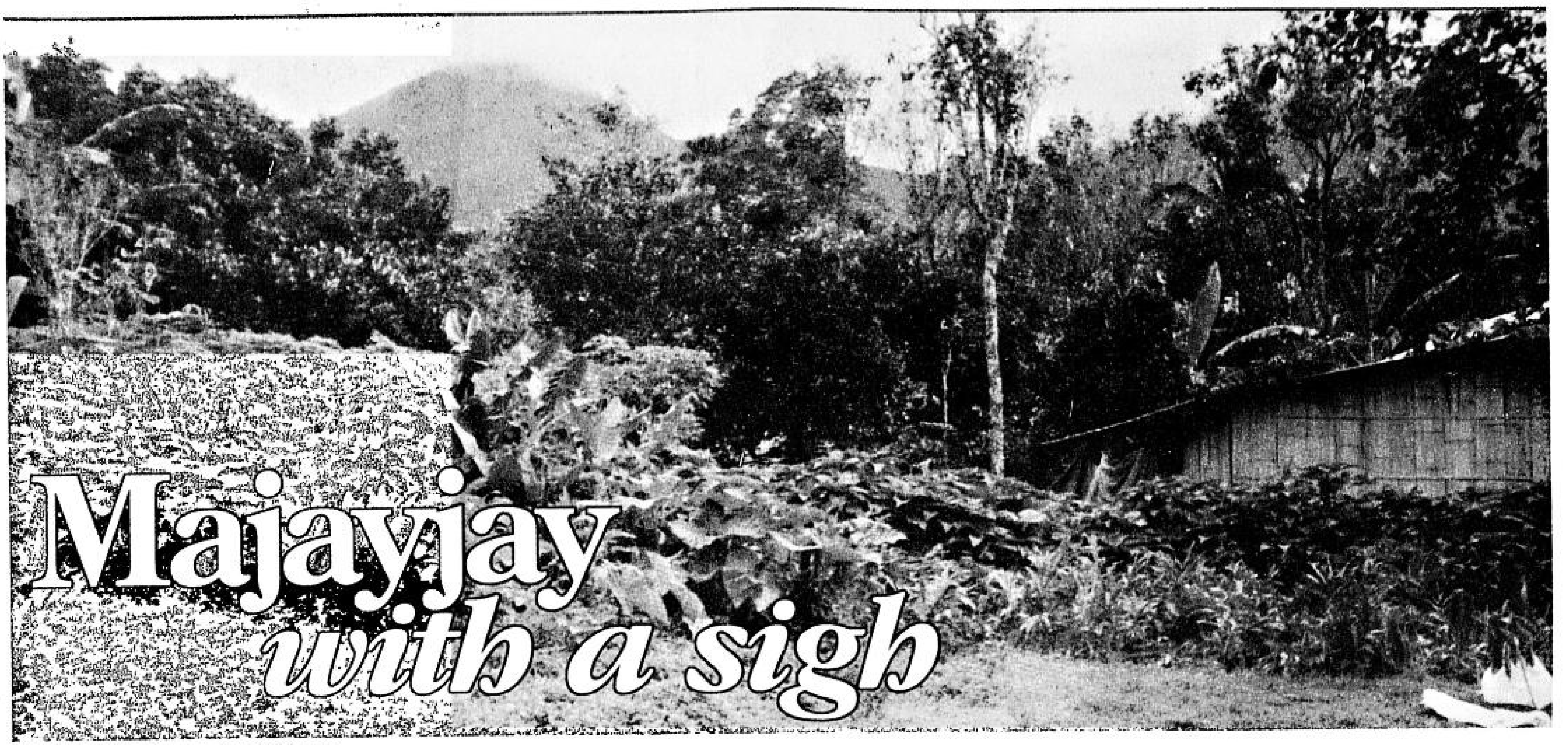
TRAVEL

Editor **Rosario A. Garcellano**



MT. Banahaw (seen from Laguna side) looms.

Majayjay with a sigh

Text and photos by Amadis Ma. Guerrero
Contributor

> 'And for all this, nature is never spent/ There lives the dearest freshness deep down things'

HIGH UP in mystical, mist-laden Mt. Banahaw, the dew melts into the leaves, trunks and roots of the trees, leading to a great flow of spring waters. These merge into the many creeks and falls of the mountain, cascade down, and irrigate the fields in the lowlands

The waters pass through the remote barangay of Taytay in Majayjay, Laguna, 1,600 feet above sea level, which makes it slightly higher than the cool mountain town of Lucban in adjoining Quezon.

In the barangay, which lies along the foothills of Mt. Banahaw National Park, the waters merge into the Dalitiwan Stream to produce the falls for which the area is known.

There are actually a number of falls, "discovered" by trekkers and adventure tourists, mostly Filipinos, in the 1970s. It was not a very popular site then because it was a bailiwick of the New People's Army guerrillas, whom the locals called "*mga pogi* (the handsome ones)."

Up to the early 1990s, Taytay was inaccessible except to mountaineers. They would start from Barangay Dagalot and trek uphill through the forest. Some chose to go horseback, for the residents were mostly farmers who own a horse; the ride cost P100.

The tourists were not bothered by the presence of the guerrillas, who did not bother them in turn. Gradually, through word of mouth, the falls became known.

Through the years, the barangay managed to save the income generated by tourism. It embarked on a six-year (1995-2001) project to cement the roads leading to Taytay. And so today, getting there is no longer a problem.

My nature-loving *compadre* Val Obmerga of Lucban has, so to speak, set up camp in verdant Taytay. In fact, he has built a café-resto there called Base Camp.

Armed with a long-standing invitation from him to visit the place, we hie off to that part of Majayjay in pastoral Laguna.

My *inaanak* (godson) William-J, 13, and his brother RV (for Rudolf Valentino), 10, athletic like their father, are off training for some sporting event. Their mother Gemma is keeping the home fires burning in their residence in San Pedro, Laguna. So only the Obmergas' youngest child and only daughter, 6-year-old Gelian, and her puppy named Doc Chummy keep us company.

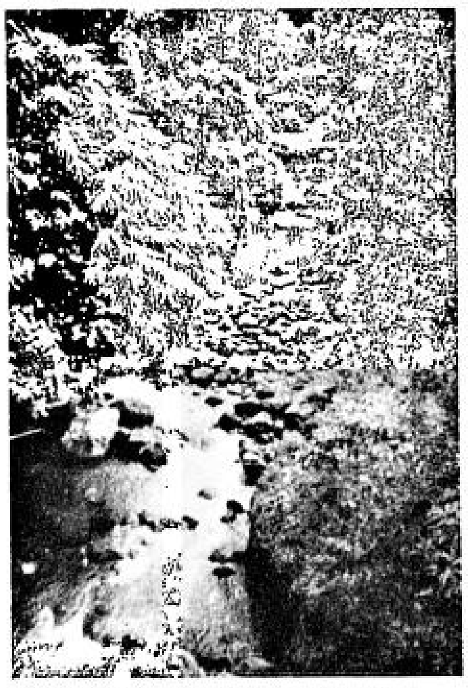
Barangay Taytay lies 120 kilometers southeast of Manila and about eight km from Majayjay proper. (In the capital town of Santa Cruz, you can find a jeepney that will take you to Majayjay, from where you can take another jeepney to the barangay.)

The trip from northern Metro Manila to Taytay takes more than two hours. Take the Calamba Exit of the South Expressway, passing through Los Baños, Bay, and Pila. In between the Santa Cruz-Pagsanjan Crossing turn right, going to Majayjay.

At the barangay proper a sign proclaims: "Welcome to Taytay Falls. Welcome to Taytay, Home of Nature-Friendly Citizens." The ambience is frontier-like, but near Base Camp are three videokes that blare until 10 p.m. (with the children joining in), the Barangay Hall, a billiards joint, and a *sari-sari* (variety) eatery with a barbecue pit. In certain areas, you can look out over Laguna de Bay and Isla de Talim.

Base Camp itself is a simple affair made of bamboo and wood, with bamboo slats for a ceiling. Mounted on the wall is a framed "Nine Insights of the Celestine Prophecy," which Val purchased in the United States

Taytay Falls is nearby; you can almost hear the onrushing waters. A brisk walk, and then you descend into an enchanting rain forest grove, greenery all around, with the peak of Mt. Banahaw hovering above, visible through an opening in the leaves and branches of the trees.



WATERS merge into Dalitiwan Stream...

There are ferns and bamboo, *dapdap*, *balete* and *tibig* trees, some 300 years old, according to the barangay officials.

Before we reach the falls, we negotiate our way across a long, winding, 600-m, half-km embankment—a real pleasure to traverse. There are steep ravines and foliage to our right, but we are protected by a green fence made of wire and tubes. To our left, almost near enough to touch, are sheer walls of foliage and moss, and a canal where the marvelously clear, cool spring waters flow downward.

There are tents galore, for some of the many visitors, including families, are planning to spend the night among the streams, boulders and rock formations, all leading to the small but powerful falls, the waters cascading down to form a natural swimming pool.

Uphill behind the falls, the terrain, with its thick forest cover, grows more challenging. Not being a trekker, I leave that challenge for a later date.

For lunch, among the treats that Val prepares is that Lucban favorite, *pancit hab-hab*, consisting of *miki* noodles garnished with vegetables.

The people of Lucban have their own way of eating these noodles, which are served on banana leaves, without any utensils.

Yet another of Val's specialties is the vegetable *ensalada*, consisting of edible ferns *(pakó)* mixed with spicy tuna flakes, onions, tomatoes, pepper, a little salt and *kalamansi*, after which a little sugar is added.

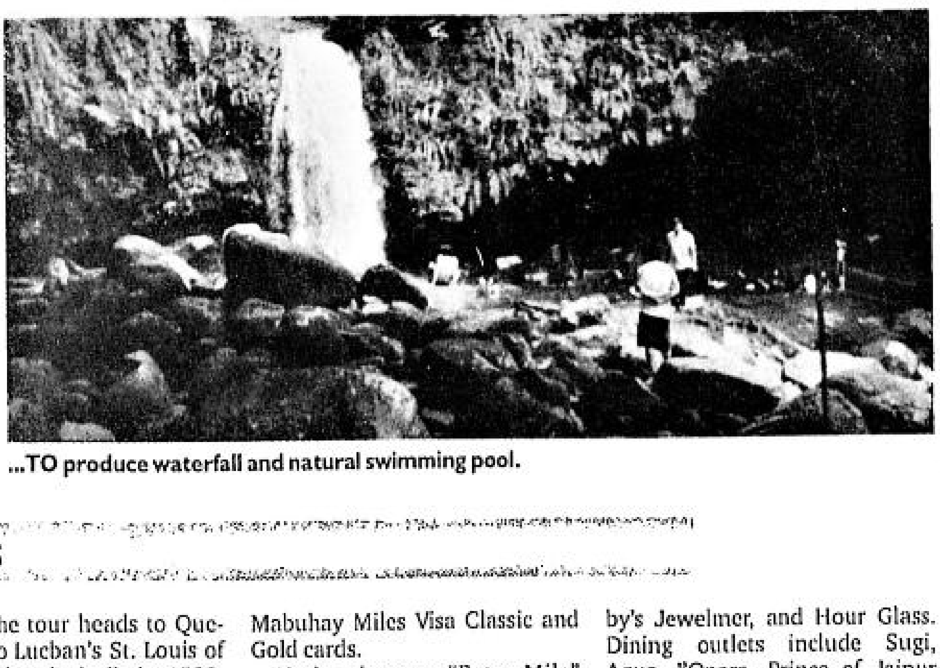
It grows delightfully cool as night descends. We retire for the night after a few drinks with Val's friends. The puppy Doc Chummy must be feeling the cold too, for he keeps disturbing my slumber and snuggling against me outside the mosquito net.

In the morning, after a hearty breakfast of the famous Lucban *longganisa* and fried rice prepared by Val's sister-in-law Merly, it is time for this traveler to move on. And, as always whenever I have to return to Metro Manila, I feel a bit depressed.

But then I remember some lines from the Jesuit poet Gerard Manley Hopkins: "My heart in hiding/Stirred for a bird...Buckle!/Fall...and gash gold-vermilion."

I also recall the poet's oneness with God and nature: "And for all this, nature is never spent/There lives the dearest freshness deep down things."

And my spirits rise again, buoyed by all that greenery around me as I take my leave of the enchanting rain forest grove.



...TO produce waterfall and natural swimming pool.

More tourists visiting Boracay

KALIBO, Aklan—The world-famous Boracay island has notched a sharp increase in tourist arrivals with the completion in July of the P50-million jetty port and terminal in Barangay Caticlan, Malay town.

Gov. Florencio Miraflores said the collection at the Caticlan Jetty Port increased from P200,000 in July to about P700,000 in December. He said he expected that number to double with the completion of the jetty on Boracay.

According to the Municipal Tourism Center (MTC) in Caticlan, 33,143 tourists went to Boracay through the Caticlan port in January.

Of the number, 11,406 were foreigners, 2,098 were *balikbayan* and 19,639, local tourists.

Data provided by tourism operations officer Barbara Flores showed that most of the foreign tourists were Koreans at 4,944. *Recto I. Vidal, PDI Visayas Bureau*

TRAVELBRIEFS

Anniversary treats

CEBU Pacific (CEB) celebrates its eighth anniversary this month with a "Flying Great at 8" promo.

All revenue passengers traveling within the month are automatically entitled to join a raffle. Grand prizes include a trip for two to the United States via Northwest Airlines, with P100,000 pocket money care of MasterCard; a Hong Kong vacation package for two; and a Bohol Fun Tour package for two.

On board selected flights, passengers will be entertained with CEB's new game, "Box O Kahon," which gives away special items from the airline's partners as well as complimentary tickets to domestic destinations.

No one will leave the plane empty-handed this month because all passengers will receive special goody bags.

On March 8, the anniversary day itself, pre-departure parties will be held simultaneously in the three major airports in Manila, Cebu and Davao.

Still in connection with "Flying Great at 8," Jollibee has an ongoing raffle promo in all its stores wherein lucky participants can win vacation packages from CEB.

Lenten church tour

ON HOLY Thursday (April 8), Inscribe Tours' annual "Visita Iglesia" takes pilgrims to seven centuries-old churches in eastern Laguna and Quezon.

First stop is Pila's Church of San Antonio de Padua, located among colonial houses and gabled *municipio* buildings. Next is the Pagsanjan Church, first built in 1687. In Kalayaan, the quaint San Juan de Bautista Church, on the shores of Laguna Lake, is even older by nearly a century, having been erected in 1590.

The tour breaks for a buffet lunch at the mountainside Exotik Restaurant before proceeding to Cavinti, with its Baguio-like clime and zigzag roads affording visitors spectacular views of Lake Caliraya.

Equally striking is its 16th-century Parish of the Transfiguration Church.

With mystical Mt. Banahaw looming, the tour heads to Quezon, first to Lucban's St. Louis of Toulouse Church, built in 1593. There's also time to shop for the town's famous *longganisa* (sausages) and other delicacies.

Next is the Minor Basilica of St. Michael the Archangel in Tayabas, at 103 meters the longest Spanish colonial church in the Philippines. Last stop is the 405-year-old church of Sariaya, where a hearty *merienda* of native fare awaits participants.

For reservations, call Marie at 840-5912 or 575-8370 or text 0919-8184697.

Extra miles

HSBC means to prove that the best things in life are free with its Mabuhay Miles Visa Classic and Gold cards.

Under the new "Extra Mile" program, the best designer labels, appliances, meals and desirable indulgences are your tickets to free local and international flights with Philippine Airlines.

You earn double or triple miles for every P45 spent when you use Mabuhay Miles Visa Classic and Gold cards at Extra Mile partners such as Gucci, Prada, Coach, Lacoste, Nine West, Kenneth Cole, Jack Nicklaus and other SSI stores.

Other establishments where you can get double and triple miles include SM Appliance Center, Make Room, True Value, Toby's Jewelmer, and Hour Glass. Dining outlets include Sugi, Aqua, L'Opera, Prince of Jaipur and all Shangri-la hotels and restaurants.

You continue to earn one mile for every P45 spent when you use your Mabuhay Miles Visa at any other store.

Unlike in other mileage rewards programs, Mabuhay Miles Visa cardholders can redeem a free flight with as little as 3,000 miles.

The newly launched Mabuhay Miles Visa Gold, apart from triple miles, is loaded with a minimum credit limit of P500,000 and one of the lowest interest rates in town at 2.75 percent a month.

THE REAL "American Idol"—William Hung, a.k.a. HK's Ricky Martin

Gan tries men's mag, Hung rocks

From page E1

and accessory collection as they soon will be irreplaceable! Tom Ford still has his YSL show on March 7 in Paris. He is said to be keen on going to Hollywood to be a director. Whatever the outcome, the world waits with bated breath for his next move. My bet and hope, he sets up his own label!

The real American idol. He may not have won or made the cut, but **William Hung**, a.k.a. the Hong Kong **Ricky Martin**, has won the hearts of many people.

If you recall, he was the one who told Simon "the evil judge" Cowell that he had no voice training. What has endeared him to a lot of people albeit the fact that he can't sing nor dance, is he is so real. A lot of people who go on these shows are fake and really play up to the cameras. Well, his career is doing so well that he has been seen on several US shows and even received $25,000 for singing at a college basketball game.

And the last word... The final episode of "Sex and the City." After six years, the popular TV series "Sex and the City" has said goodbye. You probably have heard of the outcome of the final episode. (If you don't want to know, don't read any further.) Miranda and Steve are still together, Charlotte and husband Harry adopt a baby. Samantha, who's undergoing chemotherapy, finds love in a younger man, Lewis. And Carrie chooses Mr. Big.

Here's the scenario: Carrie is dating Aleksandr Petrovsky (**Mikhail Baryshnikov**), and he asks her to move to Paris with him. Mr. Big flies to Paris, after realizing he cannot live without her. When they meet he tells her, "You're the one." She answers, "Kiss me, you big cry-baby. I miss New York—take me home." And he does just that!

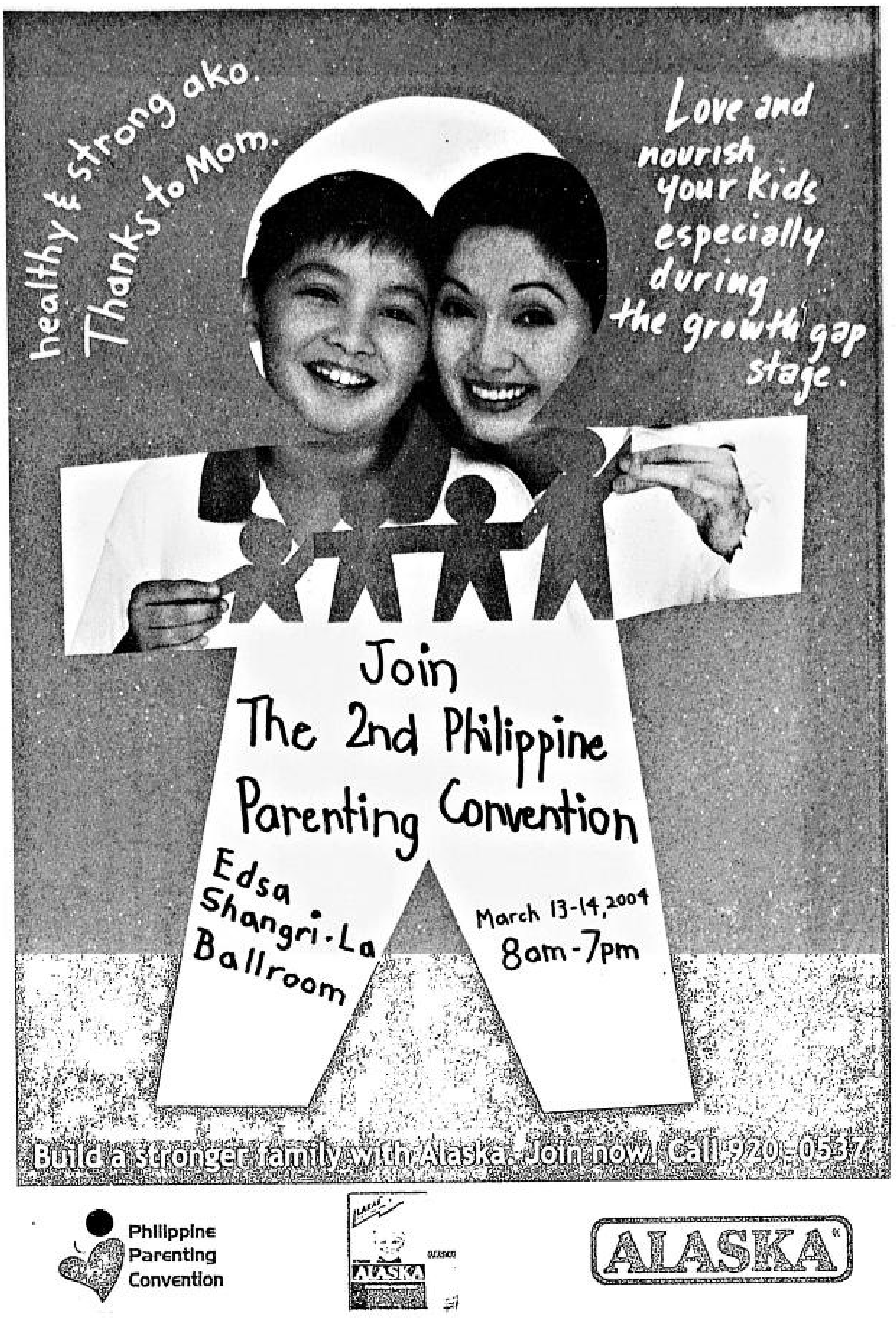
The final episode was watched by more than seven million viewers and caused more debates than the ongoing Democratic primaries. Some would have wanted Carrie to stay single and not go back to Mr. Big especially since he had cheated on her so many times. But in the end, love conquers all! In the final episode, Mr. Big's name is finally revealed: It's John!

For those who will miss the series, all is not lost. We hear that there is a movie in progress, so watch out for it!

E-mail the author at antonsd@philtatler.com

GUCCI glam

TOM Ford taking his last bow for Gucci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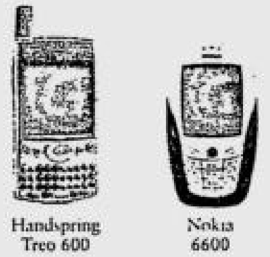

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DELECTABLE LOOK. Herbench image model Kristine Hermosa is wearing a 100-percent cotton short-sleeved blouse with handmade floral patchwork.

Herbench
FITNESS STAR

FIT TO BE A NOVA. "Fitness Star" cotton crewneck cap-sleeved tee.

i choose bench

COMBED cotton crewneck cap-sleeved tee with print and Overhauled Red Series denim pants

The face to launch a thousand styles

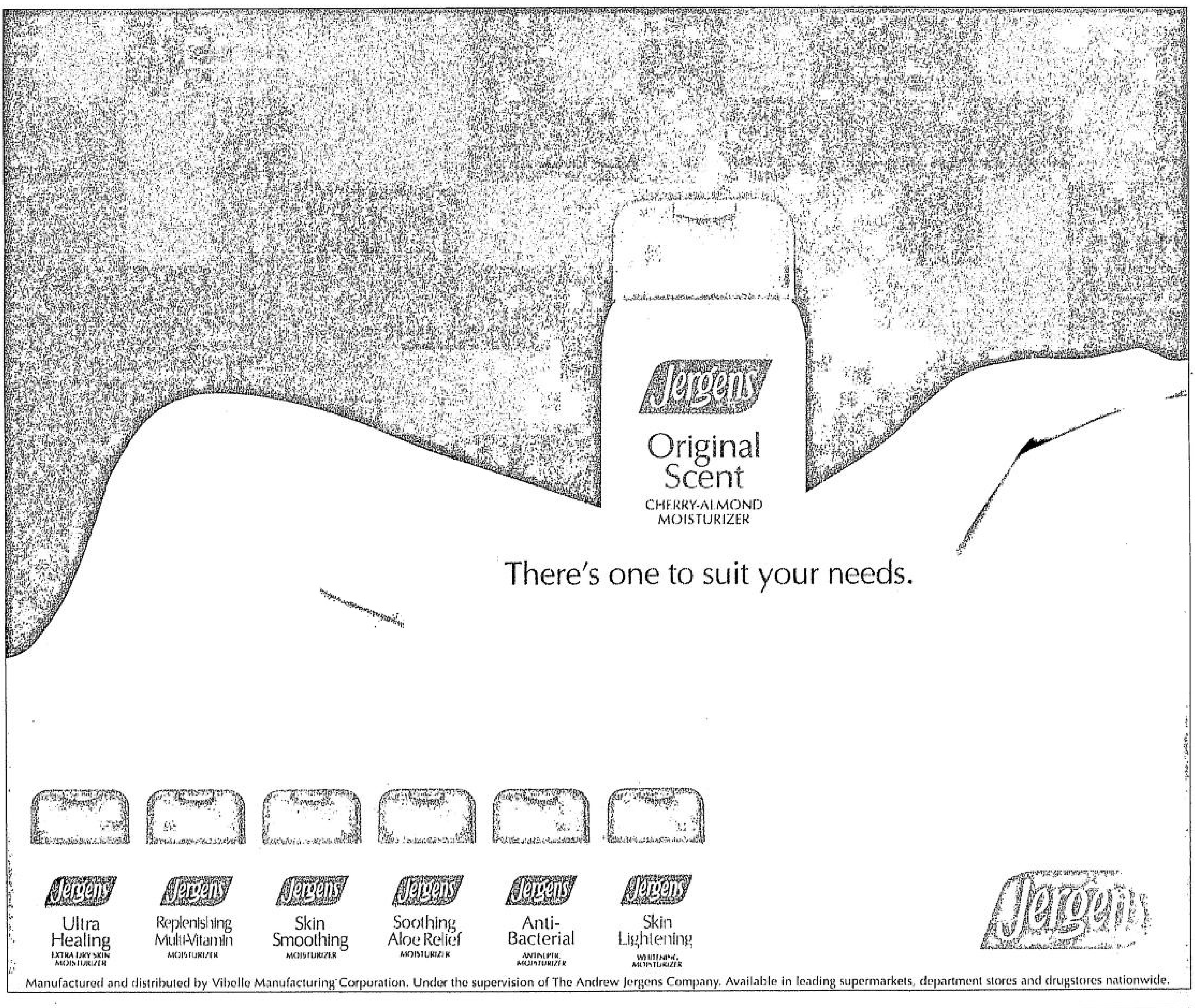
HER EYES speak of innocence. Her lips are kissably smooth. Her face shows impeccable sweetness. Truly, the newest face of Herbench exudes classical beauty.

Dramatic television's Kristine Hermosa has signed up with Herbench, the female counterpart of the men's fashion house Bench.

When she made her first catwalk appearance last August during the Bench Red Series fashion show, a maturing Kristine was dressed in a Bench scoop-neck top with eggplant velvet shorts with beaded tassels and armbands created by Patrice Ramos-Diaz.

Kristine, who started from the now-defunct teen show "Ang TV" and became a member of ABS-CBN's Star Circle Batch 4, has become a household name for her many soap operas, notably

THE FACE/ F3



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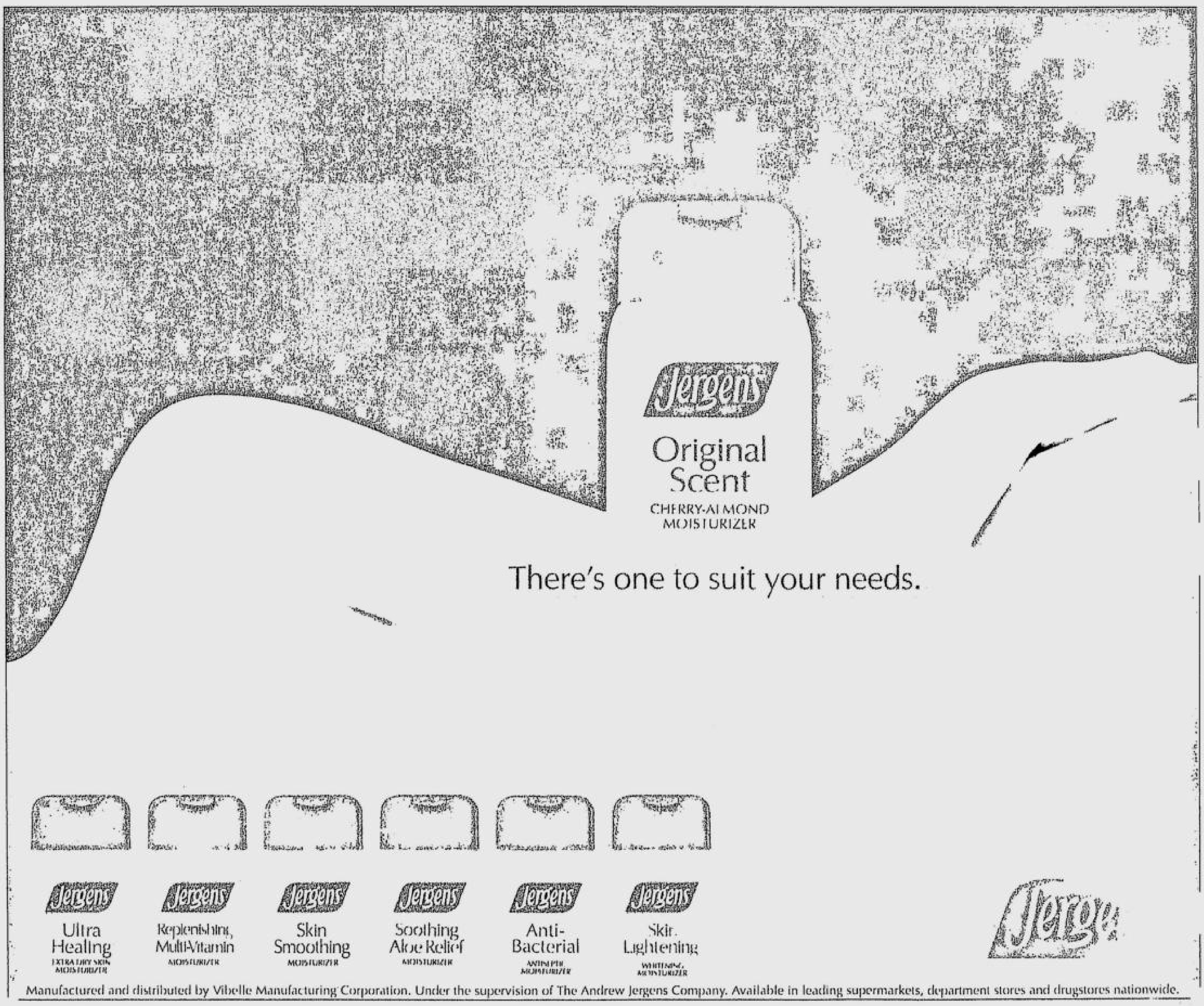
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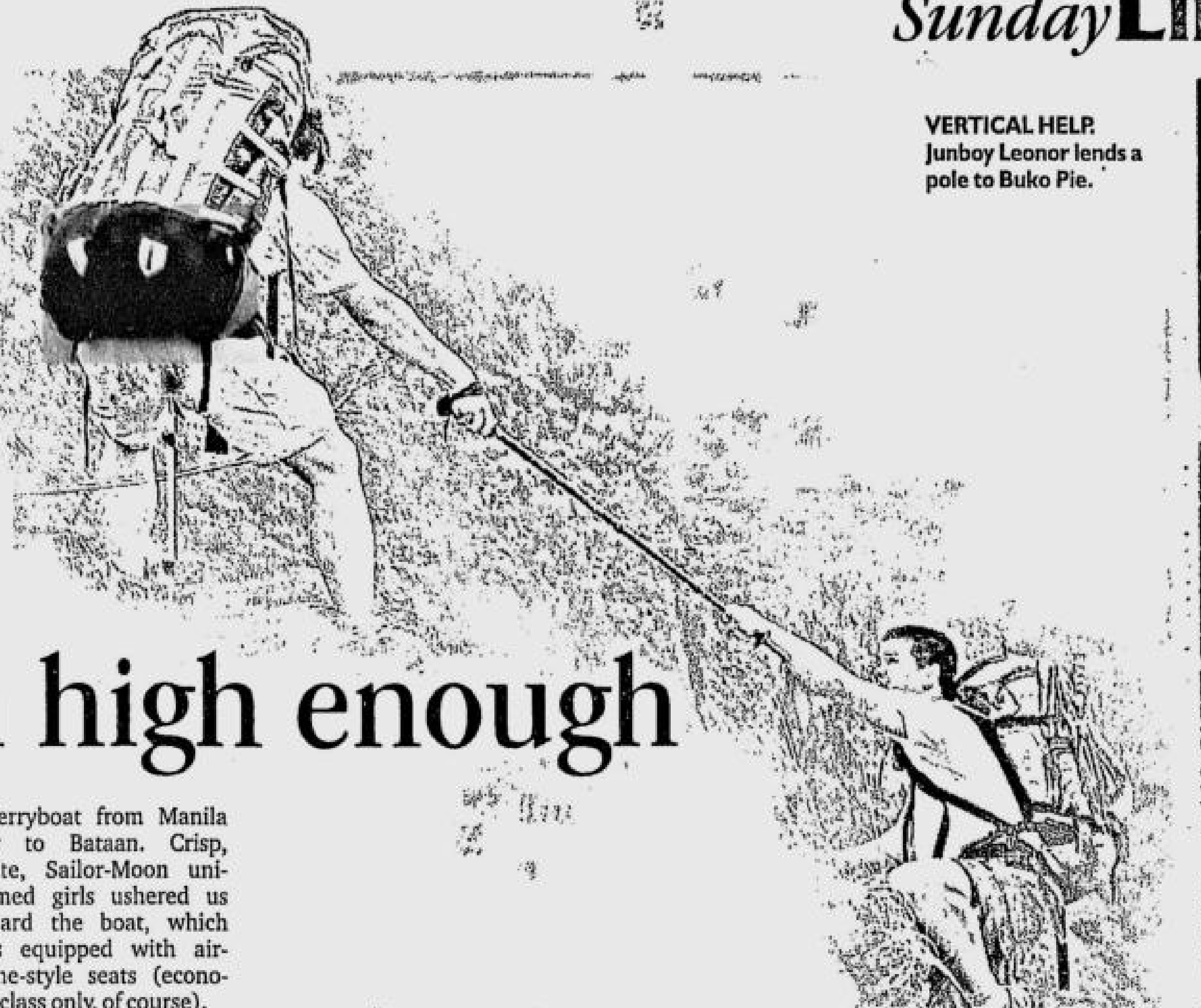
AT THE PIER with Capt. Rey, with Mt. Mariveles in the background


VERTICAL HELP. Junboy Leonor lends a pole to Buko Pie.

Ain't no mountain high enough

Or how I climbed Mt. Pulag in Bataan with boa feathers and sherpas and with toilet provisions dangerously running low

TESSA!

Tessa Prieto-Valdes

THE HILLS (more like mountains) were alive with the sound of music. This was literally true for the most part of the climb up Mt. Mariveles, Bataan, when a group of "urban adventure seekers" was singing a capella a variety of hits from Frank Sinatra to John Mayer.

Almost exactly a year ago, I did my first mountain trek up Mt. Pulag. On that virgin climb, I had three sherpas carrying my camping gear because I was afraid I would not reach the summit, what with the heavy weight of my baggage.

This time around, I figured, even if I am in better shape than a year ago, I would still bring up porters. After all, if it ain't broke…

An essential piece of equipment I forgot to bring on that first climb, I made sure to include this time: a pillow. My favorite pillow would also help simulate a heftier-looking backpack, so I could look more like a pro.

Other items stuffed in were my boa feathers, one or two fashionable hats and Adidas visors in various colors.

To get to the foot of the mountain, we took a ferryboat from Manila Bay to Bataan. Crisp, white, Sailor-Moon uniformed girls ushered us aboard the boat, which was equipped with airplane-style seats (economy class only, of course).

I pretended to show the group the nearest exit door following the "escape-path lighting system," a tongue twister that few could pronounce properly.

Upon reaching the pier on the other side of the bay, I did some panic-buying in what might be the last *sari-sari* store around, getting shampoo and conditioner in sachets (the best size to carry). I noticed the Sunsilk brand had the most exposure among the rows of sachets hanging like cloves of garlic from the store ceiling.

I also bought miniature Green Cross rubbing alcohol, Johnson's cologne, Juicy Fruit gum and Chocnut. All these products are just so Pinoy!

Being a Sunday, I also bought an INQUIRER to check out my article. Then realizing that we might end up using it as toilet paper, I quickly made sure to buy a real roll.

Last toilet seat

A short 20-minute jeepney ride brought us to the jump-off point, aka our last toilet seat, for the next 30 hours. Just the thought makes you want to go again.

With all systems go and my porters all accustomed to the giant backpacks they were carrying, we hit the trail. The 5 ½-hour, steep climb was scheduled with a lunch break by Papaya River, a mid-way stream which is the last water source during the dry season.

The extreme-sports couple, **Ernie** and **Jeena Lopez**, was my singing and climbing duo. They made sure I was safe. I was actually amazed with my pace considering I was going on just three hours sleep and without a Power Bar.

Jumping into the clear, icy stream was just rejuvenating. Going about "your business" in the wild is only difficult at first. Once you've crossed that initial, critical first time, sticking out one's butt is a breeze. Just make sure it is done downstream so the water stays cold and clean.

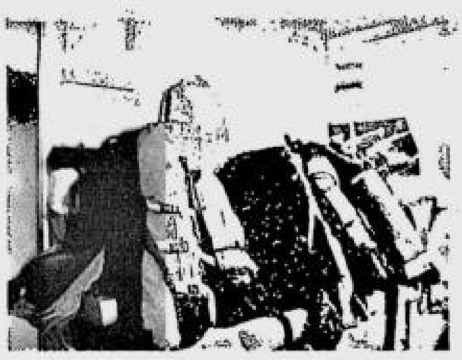
My fave sports and yoga-guru cousin, **Jonjon Rufino**, cooked us lunch using the tiniest portable gas stove. I just marveled at this Renaissance man as he whipped up a pasta with Portobello mushrooms and green peppers. No pre-cooked *adobo* for this guy!

Gathering enough energy for the more challenging section of the climb, we headed to the summit. This took another 3½ hours. But we added pit stops for capturing those Kodak moments.

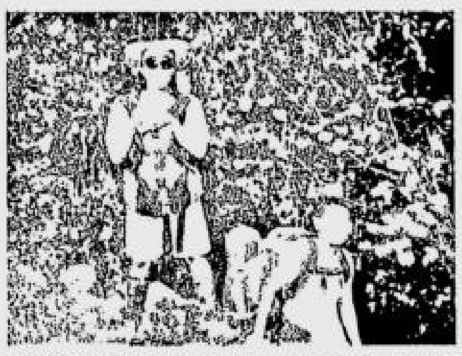
At one stop, we chatted with some members of the Sandugo Mountaineers, a group of 30 climbers headed down already. One of them even recognized me on Tarak Ridge, calling out, "Sea Princess!" Which created quite an echo, as we were 1,006 meters above sea level.

Blessed

After what seemed like hours of gripping at roots, we finally reached the summit, and it was breathtaking. Manila Bay looked so

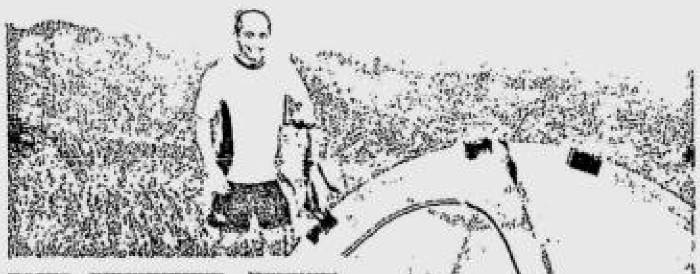

FULLY equipped backpacks and a beauty bag

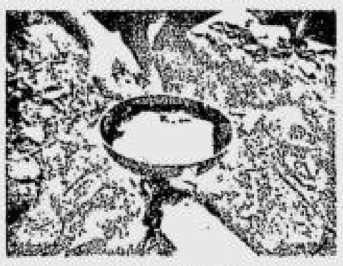
TO CONQUER and divide. Mountain poles to the sky


CLIMBING in style. My sherpas, Joel and Jong

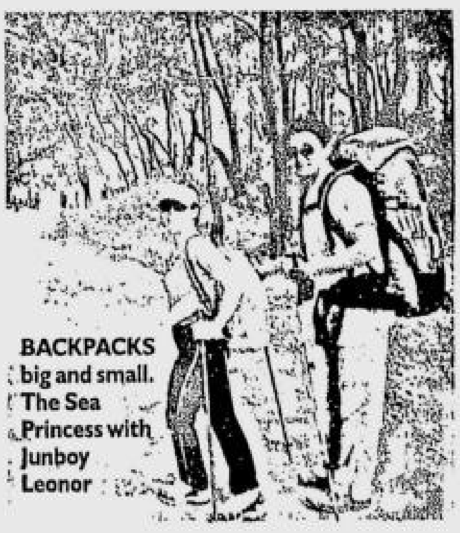
HEFTY men in a row. Play Underground staff Joel and Jong with Ernie Lopez

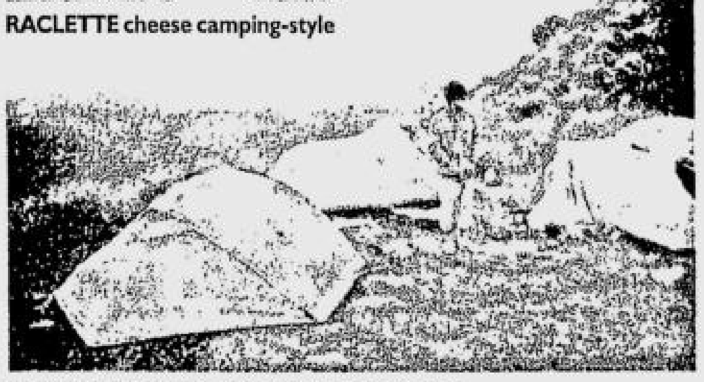
CLIMBING couple in friendly territory, Christine Gella and Joey Aranda


BIRTHDAY boy Ernie Lopez at the top of the world

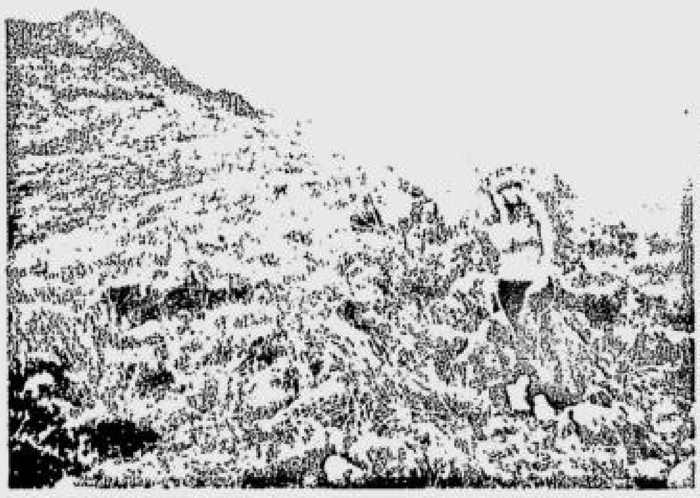

RACLETTE cheese camping-style

SANDUGO mountaineers who recognized the Sea Princess. Jun (in orange) spotted me.


BACKPACKS big and small. The Sea Princess with Junboy Leonor


TENT CITY. Early riser Joey Aranda at the top

RENAISSANCE man Jon-jon Rufino in the Tarak Ridge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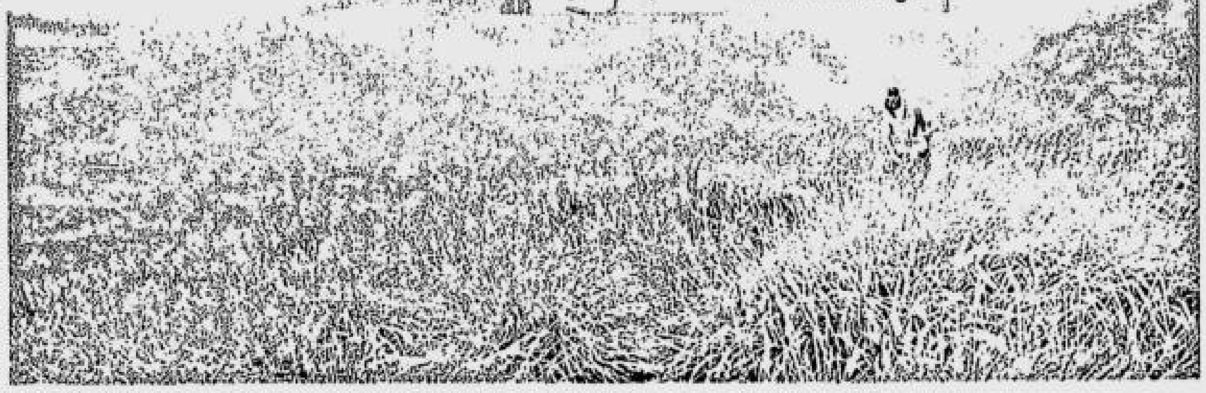
GOD'S glorious creation

URBAN adventure seekers

IMPOSSIBLE IS NOT A FACT. IT'S AN OPINION.
IMPOSSIBLE IS NOT A DECLARATION. IT'S A DARE.

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NANA River, the last water source before the summit

ın. With Corregidor and Mt. Samat as focal ıts, the view was spectacular. The Philip-ˑs, even if in political turmoil, is so blessed ı natural resources.

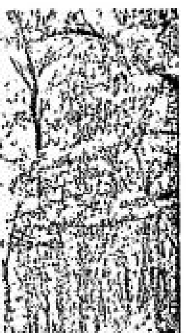
'he next order of the day was tent set-up. ation, location, location! At that altitude, d is a major factor. The important thing is ituate your tent in the lee of a rock. You ıldn't want to wake up suspended halfway ɣn the cliff!

)inner al fresco was romantic, but since my band, **Dennis**, was not around and we e three in the tent, the mood wasn't quite same.

Dur co-leader/mountaineer/musician-by- **Junboy Leonor** spent the evening doing ıt photography with his Canon digital ıera. It's the same one I point and click ı, but he used his in manual mode to get re dramatic photos. I was just glad to be subject.

'here are no rules on peeing in the moun-ıs. The major consideration, though, is not o it on the trails or near camp. It was won-ful that the site had huge rock formations ıne could just hide behind them.

'or some funny reason, the main topic of the night was passing gas. I will not divulge the champion that evening but we had such a good laugh.



Too tired to stay up, tent mate **Kris Mijares** and I exchanged facial-cleansing products and hit the sack.

The most awesome discovery was that our phones had signal. We were connected at 1,288 meters! The wonders of technology are simply amazing.

Throughout the night, I also used my phone as back-up ılight. Mental note: Keep phones in a dry, m place inside the tent. Mine froze, so it temporarily dead the next day.

ɔur tribe leader, "Buko Pie," who virtually ıne knows as **Randell Raymundo**, gath-l his "riders of Rohan" to start the descent. r a very deep, so-deep-I-didn't-under-ıd-a-word, Tagalog prayer by Ernie, we ; him a birthday song as he celebrated his "4-Oh" up the summit.

urning this glorious age makes one more less of challenges and wiser with the ways fe. Living for a day with the bare essentials taught me to appreciate nature in its ɩst form. I also realize that I have been ɩsed to be able to experience these adven-ɩs with dear friends.

mail me at seaprincess@inquirer.com.ph.

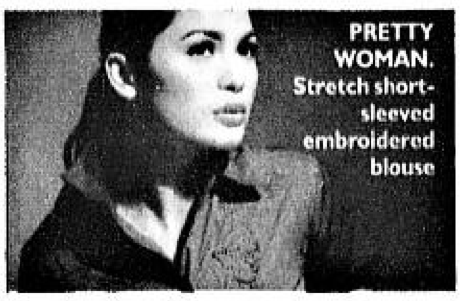
The face to launch a thousand styles

From page F1

"Sana'y Wala Nang Wakas." She has also appeared in the movies.

A mainstay of the Sunday variety show "ASAP Mania," this 5'5" 20-year-old lass is one of the prettiest faces in the entertainment industry.

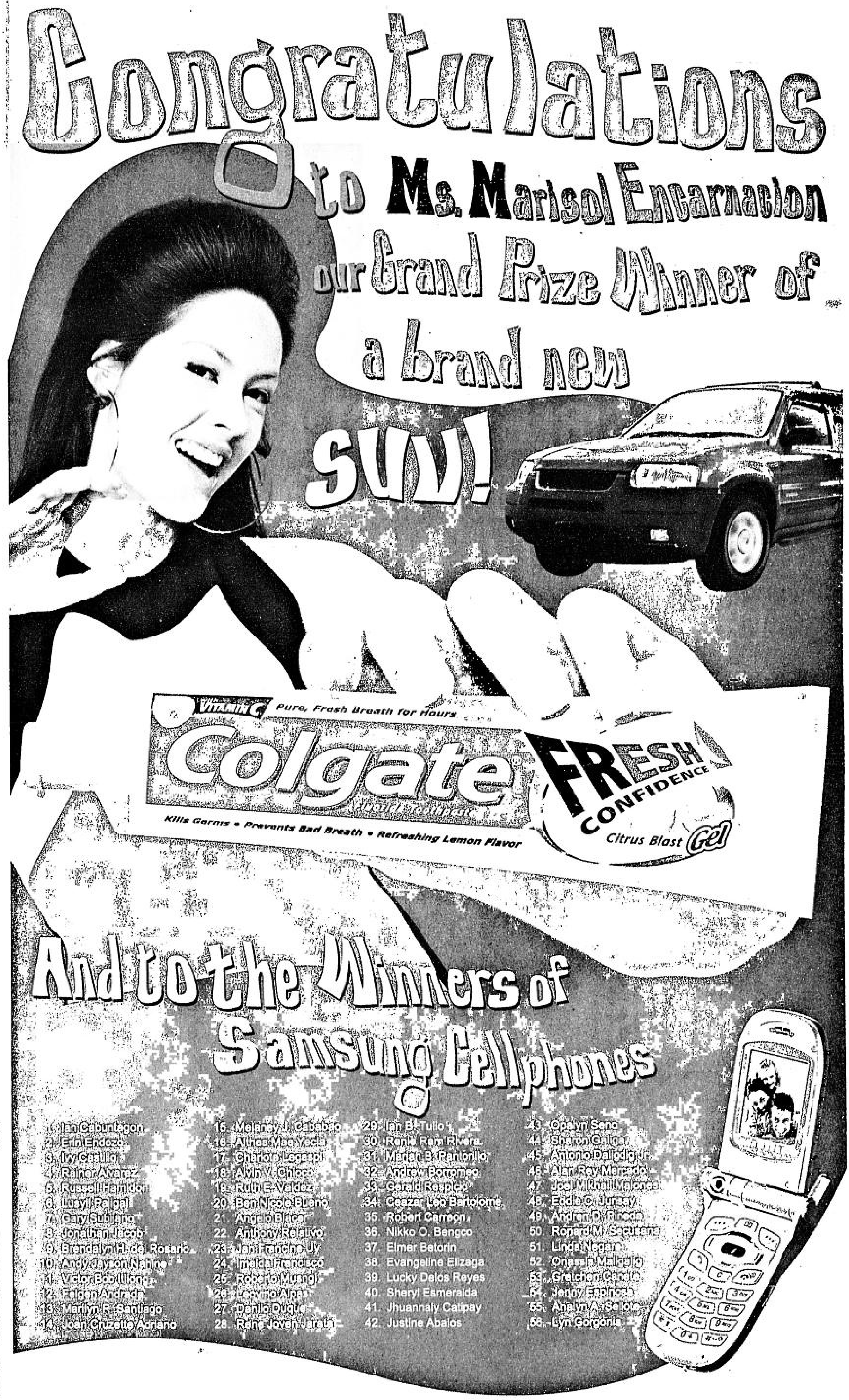
Kristine once dreamed of becoming a fashion model. Her taste leans on romantic and soft silhouettes, which suits the classic but young and versatile image of Herbench.



PRETTY WOMAN. Stretch short-sleeved embroidered blouse

REFINED GLANCE. Stretch striped short-sleev blou to de

CLASSIC BEAUTY. Cotton boat-neck three-quarter-sleeved blouse



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11. Victor Bob Illongo
12. Feiden Andrada
13. Marilyn R. Santiago
14. Joan Cruzette Adriano
15. Melaney J. Cababao
16. Althea Mae Yecla
17. Charlotte Legaspi
18. Alvin V. Chioco
19. Ruth E. Valdez
20. Ben Nicole Bueno
21. Angelo Blacer
22. Anthony Relativo
23. Jan Franchie Uy
24. Imelda Francisco
25. Roberto Muangi
26. Leovino Alpas
27. Danilo Duque
28. Rene Joven Jarata
29. Ian B. Tullo
30. Renie Ram Rivera
31. Marian B. Pantorillo
32. Andrew Borromeo
33. Gerald Respicio
34. Ceazar Leo Bartolome
35. Robert Carreon
36. Nikko O. Bengco
37. Elmer Betorin
38. Evangeline Elizaga
39. Lucky Delos Reyes
40. Sheryl Esmeralda
41. Jhuannaly Catipay
42. Justine Abalos
43. Opalyn Seno
44. Sharon Galga
45. Antonio Daligdig Jr.
46. Alan Rey Mercado
47. Joel Mikhail Malones
48. Eddie C. Junsay
49. Andren D. Pineda
50. Ronard M. Sacusena
51. Linda Negare
52. Onessa Maligalig
53. Gretchen Candia
54. Jenny Espinosa
55. Analyn A. Selloto
56. Lyn Gorgonia

Winners will be notified via mail and phone call from ABS-CBN Interactive.

Per DOH-BFAD Permit No. 1195, Series of 2003.

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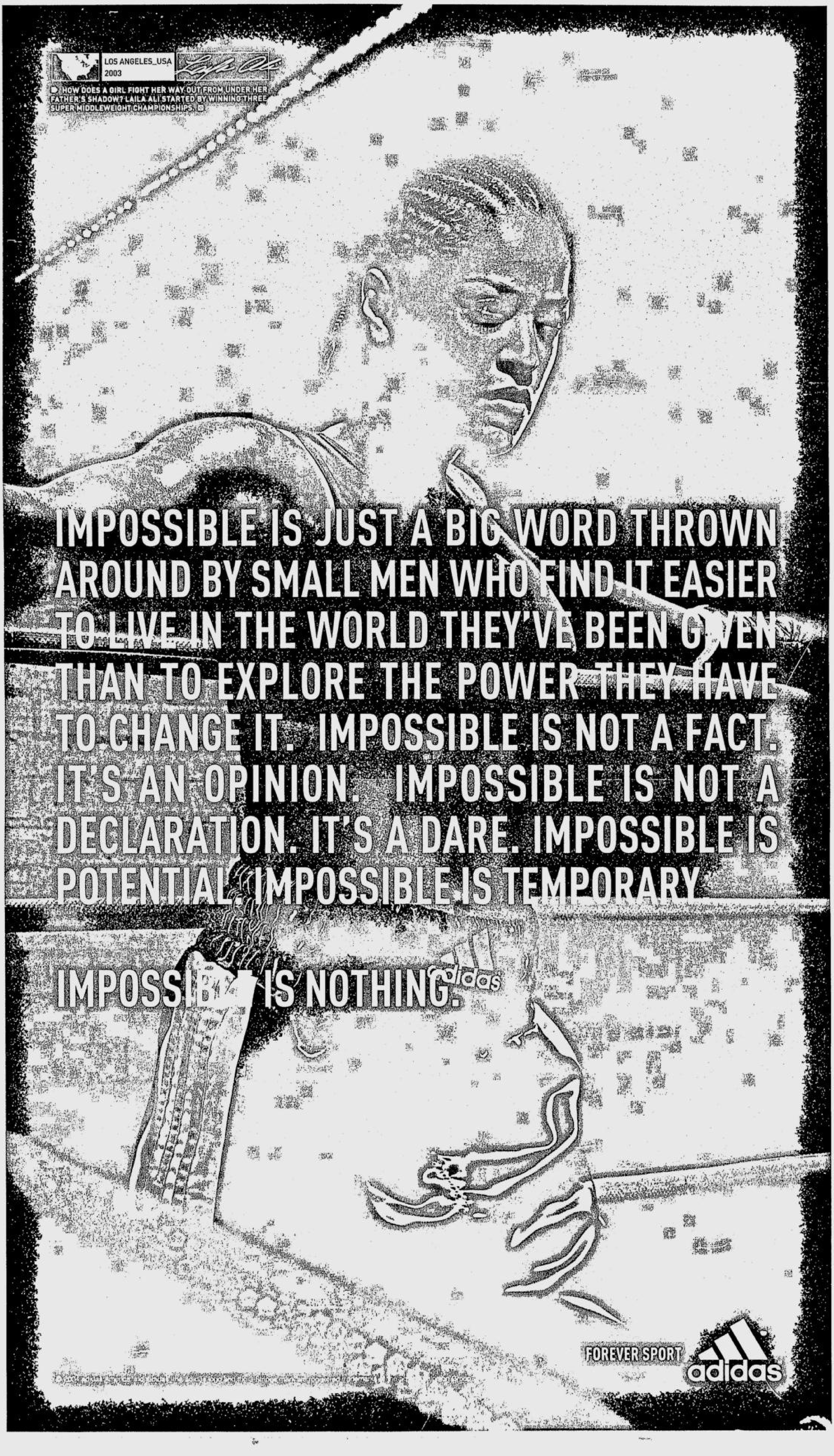

LOS ANGELES_USA
2003

HOW DOES A GIRL FIGHT HER WAY OUT FROM UNDER HER FATHER'S SHADOW? LAILA ALI STARTED BY WINNING THREE SUPER MIDDLEWEIGHT CHAMPIONSHIPS.

IMPOSSIBLE IS JUST A BIG WORD THROWN AROUND BY SMALL MEN WHO FIND IT EASIER TO LIVE IN THE WORLD THEY'VE BEEN GIVEN THAN TO EXPLORE THE POWER THEY HAVE TO CHANGE IT. IMPOSSIBLE IS NOT A FACT. IT'S AN OPINION. IMPOSSIBLE IS NOT A DECLARATION. IT'S A DARE. IMPOSSIBLE IS POTENTIAL. IMPOSSIBLE IS TEMPORARY.

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PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
Sunday LifeStyle

ALVIN and Michelle Lim (nee Santos)

LIM-SANTOS NUPTIALS

Wedding with a view

Alvin Lim and Michelle Santos' storybook romance ends in altar vows and merry feasting in a garden overlooking picturesque Taal

By Donnie Ramirez

SIX years ago, Michelle Santos was preparing for a holiday in San Francisco when her friends set her up on a blind date with a young man named Alvin Lim, who was studying at the University of San Francisco.

On the day of the date, Michelle caught an awful cold due to the change in weather, but she gamely pushed through with the blind date. Alvin must have seen something beyond Michelle's red nose and puffy eyes because, right after their first meeting, he never left her side.

He was with Michelle every single day while she was in San Francisco. When Michelle went back to Manila, Alvin didn't think twice about relocating to the Philippines.

Last Feb. 21, Alvin, son of Ang Tin Yu and Virginia Alonzo-Lim, and Michelle, daughter of Aloysius Santos and Therese Coronel-Santos, capped their storybook romance with a beautiful wedding solemnized at the rustic Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Tagaytay City.

Away from the city

The out-of-town venue was the couple's choice, so as to have their wedding away from the hustle and bustle of the city and to give their guests a weekend to unwind.

Interestingly, the wedding had a touching prelude. Weeks before their altar date, Alvin surprised his fiancee with an absolutely original engagement proposal.

On the pretext of celebrating their sixth anniversary as sweethearts, Alvin invited Michelle to his house for dinner after hearing Sunday Mass. Seated together in the garden, Michelle had a mild shock when singer Franco Laurel emerged from the bushes and started serenading her.

Then Alvin slipped an engagement ring on her finger as a burst of fireworks lit the sky. Michelle broke down in tears as the couple's friends emerged from the balcony and broke into applause.

There were more tears and applause at their wedding day. Michelle was a luminous bride in a classic dress destined to have a place in Manila's bridal memorabilia. It's the last wedding gown extraordinary couture master Joe Salazar designed before his untimely demise last Feb. 14.

Salazar must have been smiling in approval from up there as Michelle wore his last masterpiece with grace and serenity.

Nine months

Planning for the wedding took all of nine months. Alvin enlisted the help of his best man, Stephen Sia, to get the load of preparations off his bride.

Meanwhile, Michelle's mom, Therese, worked painstakingly.with Rita Neri of The Wedding Store to make sure that no hitches would mar her daughter's wedding.

Antonio Garcia of Mabolo also spared no time or expense to use only the most beautiful fresh-cut flowers for the church and reception décor. The floral colors perfectly matched the jewel color tones that were the motif of the wedding.

Bernie Pasamba's string ensemble played at the church rites, with tenor Ramon San Agustin as soloist.

The concelebrated nuptial Mass was officiated by Bishop Raul Martinez, DD; assisted by Fathers Boyd Sulpico, OP; Mario Sobrejuanite, SSP; Angel Magada Jr., SVD; and Gerry Tapiador, SSL.

The female sponsors, many of whom wore vintage Salazar couture, were Angelina Songco, Juliet Santos, Grace Agbayani, Olivia Campos, Vilma Valera and Jojo Zabarte. The ninongs were lawyer Ricardo Romulo, Genaro Reyes, Johnip Cua, Carlos Chan, Philip Co and lawyer Pancho Villaraza.

The secondary sponsors were Stephen Sia, best man; the bride's sister Marielle, maid of honor; Allain Lim, actor Dominic Ochoa, Milano Sanchez, Michael Dy, Eu-

WEDDING/ G3

Rustan's
Rush into the sun.

Bloom this summer with XOXO, Solar Tan Thru, Salt, Oleg Cassini and 4You.

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Patroness of mothers

PURELY PERSONAL

Josephine Darang

NOW that the image of the Our Lady of La Leche has been enthroned at the foyer of the newly renovated building of Gota de Leche on Lepanto St. in Sampaloc, mothers going to the place for free milk have someone to pray to. At least 250 poor mothers come during the week for free powdered milk for one- to four-year-old children.

Gota de Leche, established in 1907, has been doing this as part of its charity work. The foundation is now headed by Lourdes L. Sarabia, daughter of one of the founders, Justice Natividad Almeda Lopez.

The image of the Virgin was donated by the Our Lady of La Leche Movement headed by Baby Ticzon Gonzales who, in September, 2000, began to spread devotion to the image. The devotion began in Spain in the 16th century. The title "Nuestra Señora de la Leche y Buen Parto" is Spanish for "Our Lady of Milk and Good Birth."

An image of the Virgin was also installed at the Harrison Plaza Chapel through Belen Ticzon Martel, the mall's executive vice president. There is also a shrine in Florida, United States.

Miracles of the Virgin

The Lady of La Leche is the patroness of mothers and mothers-to-be. Pregnant women pray to her for safe delivery while childless women asked to be blessed with a child. So far, there have been many answered prayers.

Mary Ann Mendoza, who had difficulty conceiving, prayed and now has a bouncing baby boy. Mariset Mangalindan, married late but at 40 is pregnant after fervently praying to our Lady.

Julie de Ocampo brought the Virgin's novena pamphlet to her daughter in the US and asked her to make the devotion. After she came home, she received word that her daughter was expecting so she was going to become a grandmother. Kathy Esguerra, after a miscarriage, prayed deeply to the Our Lady of La Leche and had a successful pregnancy. Many other pregnant devotees who prayed for safe delivery had their requests granted.

MEMBERS of Our Lady of La Leche Movement headed by Baby Gonzales (second from left) pose with the image. Lourdes Sarabia is on the right of the image. Fr. Rene de Leon is at the back.

Thoughts on the family

The first Paref-Rosehill Family Conference in January at the Camp Aguinaldo Theater was a good preparation for the feast day of St. Joseph (March 19), patron of the family.

Eight hundred couples attended the conference. Shirley Antonio and her husband Emilio, dean of the School of Economics in the University of Asia and the Pacific, were members of the panel. She would like to share her insights on the conference which had the theme "Stronger Families, Stronger Nation." The Antonios have three children.

The conference was sponsored by Citibank, Philamlife and Red Ribbon.

On nurturing marriage

"I may be too presumptuous, but I believe that all of us chose the spouse we are married to. Hence, we (are responsible for) the choice we made: for better or worse, in sickness and in health, in good times and bad times.

"The sacrament of matrimony made us two bodies in one. As St. Josemaria Escriva, founder of Opus Dei, said: 'The husband is the wife's road to heaven; the wife is the husband's road to heaven.' This only means that happiness is always feasible and possible despite our miseries and shortcomings as long as we do not lose sight of our goal in marriage: the commitment to give oneself totally to the other without expecting anything in return till death do us part.

"Communication between spouses is a very effective tool. Verbal and non-verbal communication can do a lot of wonders. The means do not always come handy and easy. The art of communication must be brought back to family life. The great enemy, pride, must be always checked and put under control and should not be allowed to kill communication.

"If we dream of a perfect spouse, let us first dream of becoming the perfect spouse. But dreaming of (a) perfect spouse is just a waste of time. To correct ourselves and struggle to change for the better every day is worth more of our time.

"Life is very short... let us try to make the best of the limited time we have. Let us try not to waste time quarreling, nursing grudges, cuddling hurts and pains. Loving and forgiving are worth living for. When the time comes to say a final goodbye to this world, may we (not have to) utter words of regret for not being able to love as we ought to."

God speaks to a Filipina

Nora Luna Ilagan from Rosario, Batangas began to take down messages through automatic writing from Jesus, God the Father and the Blessed Virgin Mary.

She put everything she took down into books, the fourth volume of which is now available in the Don Bosco Parish, Pauline's on España (across from the University of Santo Tomas), 5/F Inspiration bookstore, Edsa Shangri-La Mall; and Shepherd's Staff store, Greenbelt 1. You can also call 8525485.

Ms. Ilagan says, "All messages are happening now like man-made and natural calamities, accidents in the air, land and sea and sudden deaths.

"We have to pray hard," she adds. "Let us pray 'Jesus Crucified, cover us with your Precious Blood.'"

Ms. Ilagan marked 10 years of the messages March 4. Fr. James Reuter is her spiritual director.

Adoration Chapel blessing

Fr. Diwane Cacao will bless the new adoration chapel in the Sancti Dei Healing Center, Lopez Village, Los Baños, Laguna at 10 a.m. today. The Holy Mass and blessing of the Blessed Sacrament will be at 4 p.m. The public is invited.

Centering Prayer retreat

Contemplative Outreach Philippines will hold Introduction to Centering Prayer Retreat on March 19-21, 12 noon Friday-12 noon Sunday at Bl. J. Marcello Retreat House, Tagaytay City. Call 8420201/ 8177251/ 8438291/ 8438830.

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MARCH SCHEDULE
RECREATIONAL AND ONE-DAY BUSINESS CLASS
DISCOUNTED 4TH ANNIVERSARY SPECIALS

Mar. 01 - 02, Mon. & Tues. - BASIC CHOCOLATE MOULDING CLASS. An extensive two-day workshop for all chocolate lovers! The class will teach you everything about chocolate. You will be tempering, moulding and making truffles, pralines and other chocolate treats. The students will be using nothing else but Callebaut Chocolate. The class will be from 10:00 - 3:00 including all ingredients for P2,500.00. NEW CLASS.

Mar. 03, Wed. - FLAVORS OF VIETNAM. Chagio, Nuoc Cham Dipping Sauce, Pickled Vegetables, Nem Nuong Hanoi, Gene's Pho, Goi Ga (Vietnamese Chicken Salad), Cha Ca Thang Long and Xuong Xa Hot Lou are the recipes from Chef Gene and the Omni Saigon Cooking School. Recipes include all ingredients for P1,000.00 from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. NEW CLASS.

Mar. 05, Fri. - CLASSIC PASTA SAUCES 2. Other simple Italian pasta sauces - Chef Junjun demonstrates Amatriciana, Arrabiatta, Burro and Pomodoro, Ragu, Vongole and Quattro Formaggi for P950.00 including all ingredients from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Mar. 06, Sat. - SAUSAGE WORKSHOP 3. New sets of sausages from Chef Gene like Asturian Chorizo, Chinese White Sausage, Fresh Cheese Sausage (Krainer type), Longganisang Vigan, Lemon Chicken Sausage, Fresh Sulzwurst, Adobo Sausage and English Bangers. The workshop includes introductory set such as funnel, prague powder and accord powder for P950.00 from 9:00 - 12:00 noon.

Mar. 07, Sun. - THE PANINI CLASS. Chef Gene Gonzalez will teach different kinds of the Hottest Italian Grilled Sandwiches like Stewed Lamb, Italian Sausage with Sweet Peppers and Mozzarella, Grilled Eggplant with Mozzarella and Baked Garlic, Proscuitto and Spinach with Pine Nuts and Parmesan, Panini Alla Marengo and etc. plus Italian relishes and side dishes to match and enhance your food service business. P1,000.00 including all ingredients from 9:00 - 12:00 noon.

Mar. 08, Mon. - HAWKER COOKING 1. Chef Chanya Thaikupt from Thailand will teach us popular hawker food. The recipes are Kai Look Kei (Deep Fried Hard-Boiled Eggs with Tamarind Sauce), Meo Grob, Chewy Pandan Strings, Pad Krapow Talay and Pomelo Salad for P1,200.00 including all ingredients from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. NEW CLASS.

Mar. 10, Wed. - GOURMET SANDWICHES 1. Great tasting sandwiches from Chef Jun-jun de Guzman who's been running Caffe Ago-go, a haven for NY deli and Italian panini sandwiches. To be demonstrated are as follows: Classic Reuben, Cobb Sandwich, Pesto Shrimp Panini, Four Cheese & Sun-dried Tomato Foccacia and Chinese Ham and Cheddar Cheese Sandwich. Gourmet Sandwiches will also include a salad and a pasta dish for P950.00 including all ingredients from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Mar. 12, Fri. - GREAT TASTING SALADS 1. Let's make all these salads and it maybe the next sandwich filling, pasta sauce or the main course dish itself. Chef Jun-jun will show you how to make the following: Chicken Pecan and Grape Salad; Spinach and Pear Layer with Warm Bacon Sauce, Smoked Salmon Topped Iceberg Lettuce with Lemon Capers Dressing, Watercress and Salami Mix with Raspberry Vinaigrette, Fishy-Fatty Tomato with Mclean Salad Sauce and Arugula, Mango and Proscuitto Salad. From 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. for P1,500.00 including all ingredients. Plus a bonus recipe to go with your salad.

Mar. 13, Sat. - BASIC SUSHI AND SASHIMI WS 2. For the 2nd part of the Sushi and Sashimi Class, Chef Gene will demonstrate How to Fillet a Flat Fish and will teach us how to make Rainbow Roll, Sushi Rice, Futo Maki Roll, Gari, Aji, Uzuzukuri Sauce and Tamago. Recipes include all ingredients from 9:00 - 12:00 noon for P950.00. NEW CLASS.

Mar. 14, Sun. - DAVE'S SUNDAY CURRIES. Assorted curries with all the fixins for a grand meal from Chef David Fajardo will be demonstrated. The recipes are Chicken Curry, Lamb Curry, Fruit Curry, Fish Curry, Pork and Potato Curry. The recipes include all ingredients from 10:00 - 2:00 p.m. for P1,200.00. NEW CLASS

Mar. 15, Mon. - PASTA IN A FLASH. Let Chef Gino teach you 8 quick, easy and delightful pasta recipes in one short period. Recipes include Pasta Fritata, Linguine in Vongole Sauce, Chorizo, Mushroom and Roasted Red Bell Pepper Sauce, Chicken and Shrimp Lemon Creme Sauce, Pasta Bianca alla Carbonara, Pasta Salad with Honey Dill Dressing and Gino's Puttanesca for P950.00 including all ingredients from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Mar. 16 - 18, Tues to Thurs. - BASIC BAKING WORKSHOP. A 3-days hands-on workshop that will teach the students all the necessary principle and techniques in baking which will start with cookies, bars, coffee cakes and end with the three (3) main types of cakes. The workshop is limited to 15 students. Manual, ingredients and apron will be included for P4,800.00 from 10:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Mar. 19, Fri. - CHOCOLATE TEMPTATIONS. This class is a must for anyone with a passion to create a dazzling chocolate desserts. Chef Adoree Chong-Uy will demonstrate a variety of specialties like Double Chocolate Rum Cake, Fudgy Chocolate Cake, Chocolate Blitz Torte, Flourless Chocolate Cake, Chocolate Peanut Butter Dome and Graham Chocolate Roulade for P1,500.00 including all ingredients from 10:00 - 4:00 p.m. NEW CLASS

Mar. 20, Sat. - HAWKER COOKING 2. For the 2nd part of hawker cooking, Chef Chanya will teach us Tom Kha Gai (), Shrimp Roll, Spicy Noodle with Mixed Vegetables, Crispy Garoupa and Sticky Rice with Mango for P1,200.00 including all ingredients from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Mar. 21, Sun. - ASIAN RICE & SNACKS. Chef Gene's Simple Asian Rice and Snacks recipes like Soft Spicy Rolls (Vietnam), Vietnamese Clay Pot Rice, Flying Red Dragon Shake, Bun Cha Hanoi, Gene's Eight Treasure Rice in Lotus Leaf, Petaling Clay Pot Chicken Rice (Malaysia) and Nasi Ikan Masin (Malaysia) for P950.00 from 9:00 - 12:00 noon

Mar. 22, Mon. - LOW AND SUGAR-FREE DESSERTS. Let Chef Gino teaches you easy to follow Low and Sugar-Free Desserts for this season. The recipes are Coffee Pannacotta, Chocolate Ice Cream, Crème Brulee, Chocolate Souffle, Coffee Jelly with Orange Cream and Crepes with Amaretto Crème and Chocolate Sauce for P1,200.00 including all ingredients from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Mar. 23, Tues - SPANISH LENTEN DISHES. Ms. Betina Legarda of Gourmet's Palate will teach us recipes for the coming Lenten season. Recipes that the whole family would enjoy, the recipes include Calamares en Su Tinta (Squid in Black Ink Sauce), Almejas a la Marinera (Fisherman's Clams), Vieiras Gratinadas (Scallops Au Gratin), Fabada de Macarrones (Pasta Fabada Style), Pescado y Mariscos (Casserole of Seafood) and Ensalada de Atun (Country Style Salad). From 10:00 - 2:00 p.m. for P1,500.00 including all ingredients. NEW CLASS.

Mar. 25, Thurs - SUMPTUOUS SALMON 1. Let Chef Gino teach you 6 unique and tasty ways to cook Salmon that can be used in catering or for entertaining. Recipes include Salmon Cannelloni, Salmon Croquettes with Dill-Mustard Sauce, Herb Crusted Salmon Fillet with Caper Buerre Blanc, Spinach Salmon Lasagna with Saffron Gratin, Salmon Mousse with Fish Roe in Horseradish Sauce and Poached Salmon Paupette with Lemon-Basil Whisk Butter Sauce for P1,500.00 including all ingredients from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Mar. 26, Fri. - KIDS IN THE KITCHEN. For Children 5 to 7 years old who enjoys baking with their moms can now do simple recipes with less supervision from their moms. The recipes are Chocolate Crinkles, Chocolate Muffins, Apple Cookies, Butter Cookies, Mini Chicken ala King and Banana Cream Pie. For P1,500.00 including all ingredients from 10:00 - 4:00 p.m. NEW CLASS - HANDS ON

Mar. 27, Sat. - COMMERCIAL AND HOME SIOPAO MAKING. Chef Gene gives simple and easy to make steamed Buns a touch for home and business. Recipes include Siopao Dough, Asado, Bola-bola (Pork and Chicken), Braised Pork (Lo Mah), Black Mongo Filling, Cuapao, Silver Spoon Bread, Kiamchay and Siopao Sauce for P1,200.00 including all ingredients from 9:00 - 1:00 p.m.

Mar. 28, Sun. - ADOBO CLASS. Adobong Balut, Adobo sa Gata, Adobong Sugpo sa Taba ng Talangka are some of the recipes that Chef David Fajardo will be teaching. Recipes include all ingredients for P1,000.00 from 10:00 - 2:00 p.m. NEW CLASS

Mar. 29, Mon. - PASTA IN A FLASH 2. Another 8 quick, easy and delightful pasta recipes in one short period. Recipes include Porcini with Cambozola Sauce, Roasted Walnut Gorgonzola Sauce, Truffle Scented Liver Sauce, Seafood with Hazelnut Butter Sauce, Scallop and Shrimp Saffron Sauce, Chorizo and Chicken Tomato Cream, Mushroom Pancetta in Olive oil, Chicken and Shrimp Pesto are recipes from Chef Gino. For P950.00 including all ingredients from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Mar. 31, Wed. - SUMPTUOUS SALMON 2. Let Chef Gino teach you 6 unique and tasty ways to cooking Salmon that can be used in catering or for simple entertaining. Recipes include Salmon Head Red Curry with Coconut Milk, Salmon Teriyaki with Wasabi Mayonnaise, Salmon Meuniere with Kani Sarada Gratin, Salmon Cheesecake, Coulibiac of Salmon, Smoked Salmon with Shrimp Dumpling for P1,500.00 including all ingredients from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

CERTIFICATE PROGRAM IN
COOKING AND BAKING SKILLS

Course Description

Lessons cover all areas of basic kitchen skills: meat, fish, poultry and seafood fabrication, vegetables, pasta and other starch accompaniments and internationally accepted standards for baking. Menu planning and wine appreciation will be part of the program.

This series is intended for individuals who have no time to take the full time professional culinary program and yet would like to acquire the necessary basic skills, tools and techniques to enable them to enter a more lucrative world of recreational and even, professional cooking and baking. This series will culminate with a lunch buffet prepared by the students and 100 hours optional of restaurant practicum.

The 16-day, 24 session course will be handled by chef-restaurateurs and consultants and will be limited to 25 students. Enrollment includes ingredients, chef's jacket, manual and chef's kit. For inquiries and reservations call 726-9326 / 725-5089 and look for Marilyn or Glady.

CLASSES WILL START ON APRIL

One-day bridal fair on March 21

(Back row): **FASHION** designers Pepsi Herrera and Randy Ortiz, Mandarin Oriental Manila banquet sales director Alie Sison, Gigi Bautista of Events by Gigi Bautista and Associates, designers Patrice Ramos-Diaz and Tonichi Nocum, and fashion director Jackie Aquino. In front are designer Rajo Laurel (left) and Robert Blancaflor (right) of the 1816 Flower Shop. Other participating designers are Jun Escario, Rhett Eala, Edwin Tan, Mel Vergel de Dios and Vittorio.

MANDARIN Oriental, Manila, with Events by Gigi Bautista and Associates and Metro Weddings, presents "Precious Moments-Year 7," an all-day bridal fair on March 21.

Designed to help couples have a Perfect 10 Wedding, it features wedding suppliers, event planners, wedding organizers, cake designers, floral shops, jewelers, photo studios, musicians, chamber choirs and bridal transport services.

A bridal forum will be held hosted by newlyweds Apa and Ana Ongpin. Ten of the country's top designers will present a bridal fashion show and ten prestigious salons will give trial hair and makeup sittings for brides-to-be at the Captains' Bar.

"Precious Moments-Year 7" is supported by Joey and kasal.com. Admission is free. Call 8199679, 8199617 and 7508888 locals 2405, 2214 and 2218.

Milestones

ANDRES DEBUT

Penny Rose Enriquez Andres marked her 18th birthday with a grand celebration at the ballroom of the Bermuda Country Restaurant in BF Resort Village, Las Piñas City, on Feb. 24. A Mass Communications freshman at St. Benedict College, the debutante is the eldest child of engineer **Romeo** and **Gina Andres** of Las Piñas City. She wore an empire-cut pomelo pink shantung for her birthday toast and a two-piece ensemble of tube top made of heavy corded Swiss lace traced with Swarovski crystals, turnazul beads and Japan cup sequins over a full buoyant ballroom skirt of silk taffeta and imported two-toned organza for her grand march. The gowns were designed and executed by a family friend, hauté couture designer **Edgar Racca**, and his assistant, **Bobby Landiza**, of Okasyon.

SANTOS DEBUT

Mina Gracia Dimapiles Santos, daughter of **Danilo** and **Esmeralda Santos**, celebrated her 18th birthday on Jan. 3 at Don Cayetano, Balagtas Sports Complex, Bulacan.

THE COUPLE with *ninongs* Carlos Chan, Jerry Reyes, lawyer Dick Romulo, lawyer Pancho Villaraza, Johnip Cua and Philip Co; *ninangs* Jojo Zabarte, Helen Songco, Juliet Santos, Olivia Campos, Vilma Valera and Grace Agbayani

Wedding with a view

THE NEWLYWEDS with the bride's family: Marielle, Therese, Al and Richie Santos

MARGA Cunanan, Nadine Henson, Maia de Claro, Martina Tiangco, Rhea Henson, Len Carlos and Christine Songco

From page G1

gene Aquino and the bride's only brother, Richie, groomsmen; Marie Carlos, Dorothy Santos, Clarissa Coronel, Alexandra Bianca Henson, Margarita Cunanan and Carmela de Claro, bridesmaids; Don Santos and Maria Victoria Henson, candle; Randy Go and Martina Tiangco, veil; and Jose Alberto V and Jill Kierulf, cord.

The little attendants were Marco Roberto de Venecia, Jose Augusto Santos, Maia Coronel, Mara Santos, Danica Coronel, Chynna Santos, Patricia Coronel and Danielle Santos.

Epicurean feast

The reception held at the contoured garden of the newly renovated Taal Vista Hotel that overlooks Taal Lake and Taal Volcano was a veritable epicurean feast.

Margarita Fores, working with Taal Vista's chefs and kitchen crew, created seven different food stations—Japanese, Chinese, Italian, salads, carvings, desserts and cheeses. The strategic positioning of the food stations created no long queues.

Prior to the spectacular fireworks display, Alvin announced another surprise for his bride. He called on Jaya, Michelle's favorite singer, to come out from backstage where she had been hiding all night long. The belter then sang the couple's favorite tunes as the bride sobbed uncontrollably on her husband's shoulder.

As in their first meeting six years ago, Michelle's nose was red and her eyes puffy—but this time from tears of joy. And when Alvin proudly announced for everyone to hear that he will love Michelle for the rest of their lives, the resounding applause obscured the gentle sobs from the deeply-touched bride.

For Alvin and Michelle, it was truly a moment to remember.

THE NEWLYWEDS with Henry Sy Sr.

JAYA serenading the couple

FRANCES Lim, Therese Santos, Lydia Valero, Jeannie Goulbourn

DOMINIC Ochoa, Milano Sanchez, Joey Alberto, Randy Go, Jay Dy, Eugene Aquino, Richie Santos and Stephen Sia

ANDY and Agoo Bengzon, Krie and Noey Lopez

JODY Yujuico, Chris Yam, Sara Black, Twinkle Samson, Monique Albert, Alexi Alunan, Isha Andaya, May Ang, Nino Ocampo, Nikki Sarmiento and Trina Coronel

ANTON and Penny Katigbak, Nori and Nikki Poblador, Carissa Cruz and EJ Uyboco

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
Sunday LIFESTYLE
SUNDAY, MARCH 7, 2004

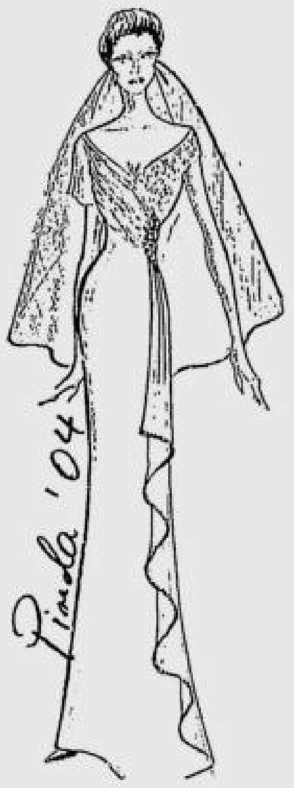
Milestones

We're accepting announcements of weddings and engagements. Please send the following typewritten information: names of engaged couple, names of parents, date and place of wedding, gown designer and other related information. Readers can send sketches of gowns and pictures of the couple to the INQUIRER office, or P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City, or e-mail lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph. This will be printed depending on space availability and at no cost to the sender.

MACAROYO 20TH ANNIVERSARY

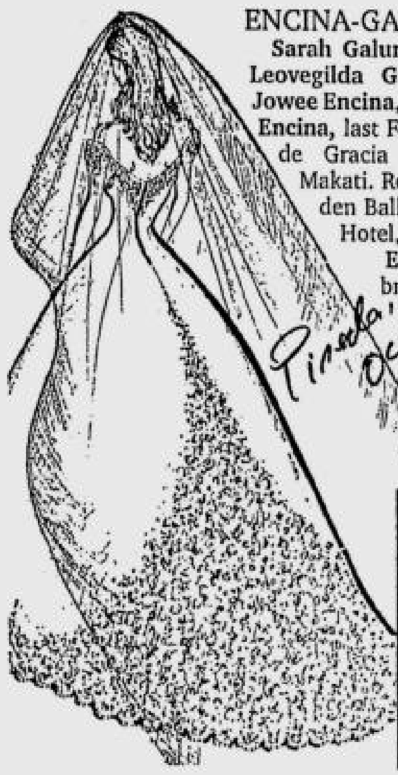
Rey and **Che Macaroyo** celebrated their 20th wedding anniversary last Feb. 29 by renewing their vows at the San Agustin Church, Intramuros, Manila. Reception followed at the Coconut Palace, CCP Complex, Pasay City.

Eric Pineda designed the bride's gown in ivory Thai silk. It was combined with monochromatically dyed chiffon in magenta diagonally draped across the bodice and accented with pink crystal brooches.



ERFE-BASMAYOR

Lee Ian D. Erfe, son of engineer **Francis I.** and **Ligaya D. Erfe**, and **Joy A. Basmayor**, daughter of P/Lt. **Segundo P.** and **Eusebia A. Basmayor**, will exchange vows on March 8 at Our Lady of Assumption Parish, Tagum City, Davao. Fr. **Edgar L. Tuling** will officiate the wedding.



ENCINA-GALURA

Sarah Galura, daughter of **Ernesto** and **Leovegilda Galura**, tied the knot with **Jowee Encina**, son of **Jose** and **Ma. Theresa Encina**, last Feb. 28 at the Nuestra Señora de Gracia church, Guadalupe Viejo, Makati. Reception followed at the Garden Ballroom of the Edsa Shangri-La Hotel, Mandaluyong City.

Eric Pineda designed the bride's gown in ivory Thai silk. It had an overlap of silk tulle embroidered in shades of powder blue and pale yellow and embellished with colored pailletes, caviar beads and Swarovski crystals.

ESTRELLA-TENGCO

Ferdie Estrella, son of Mayor **Romy** (Baliwag, Bulacan) and **Sonia Estrella**, will marry **Nina Tengco**, daughter of **Lito** and **Amy Tengco**, on Sept. 26 at the Santuario de San Antonio in Forbes Park, Makati City. Reception will follow at the Grand Ballroom of Makati Shangri-La Hotel. The gown is by **Inno Sotto.**

CHUA-ABRIELA

Angelica Abriela and **Herme Chua** were married at St. Philips Church, Pasadena, California, Dec. 27. Parents of the bride are **Dennis** and **Reby Abriela.** Parents of the groom are **Hermie** and **Carmela Chua.**

Suitable venue for garden weddings

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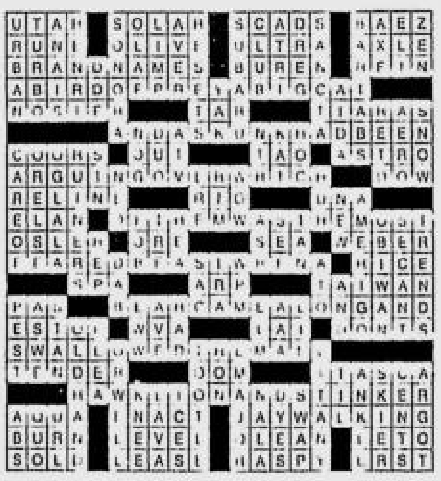
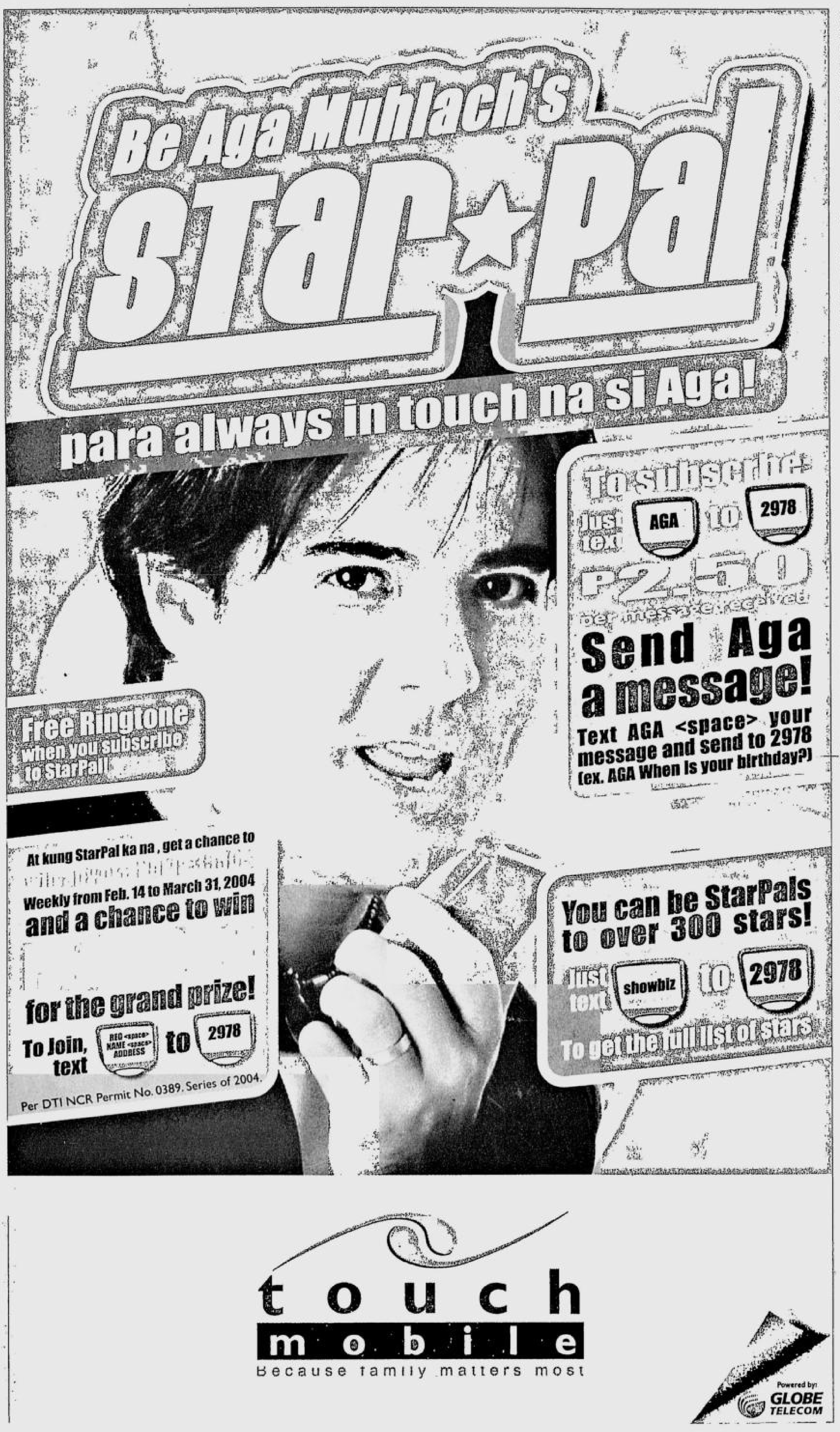
ANSWER TO SUNDAY CROSSWORD





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SUNDAY, MARCH 7, 2004

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Sunday LIFESTYLE

For feedback, text us at (0919)880-33-54
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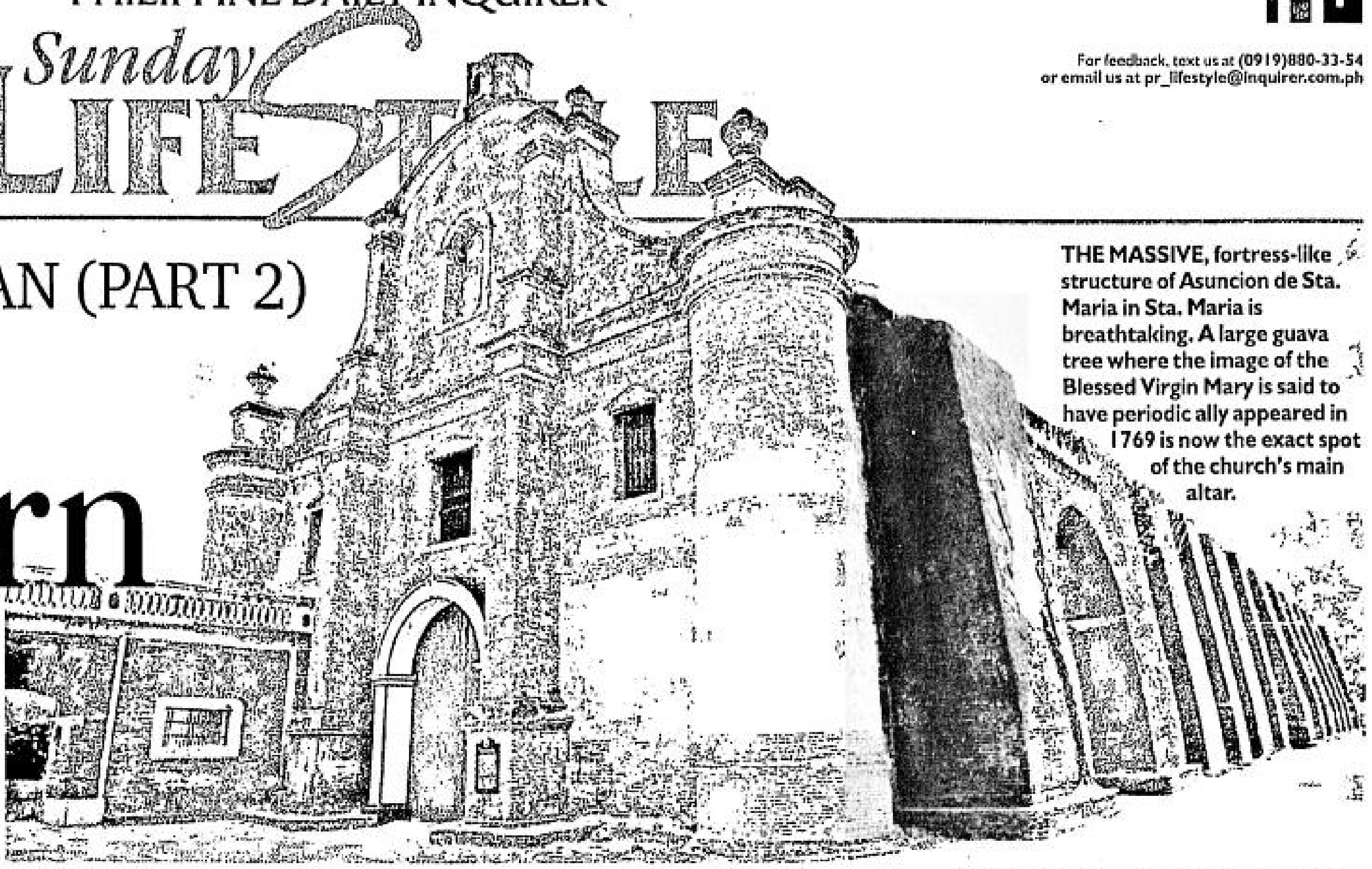
LIFESTYLE GOES TO VIGAN (PART 2)

For whom the Northern bells toll

The historic churches of Ilocos Sur invite devotion and a deep appreciation of our rich religious heritage

Text by Anne A. Jambora
Photos by Chito Vecina



THE MASSIVE, fortress-like structure of Asuncion de Sta. Maria in Sta. Maria is breathtaking. A large guava tree where the image of the Blessed Virgin Mary is said to have periodic ally appeared in 1769 is now the exact spot of the church's main altar.

FOR centuries now, the tolling of belfries has played a significant role in society. They bellow messages of a storm approaching, of marauders invading, of town meetings, of church Masses, of the end of world wars, of public protests. Their clangorous rhythms whisper to every devotee's heart.

"The bell is the voice of God," says historian Msgr. Roque C. Reyes, parish priest of the Asuncion de Sta. Maria Church, a massive colonial structure in Sta. Maria, Ilocos Sur.

During the early Spanish era, belfries doubled as watchtowers, he says. The earthquake-prone Philippines, however, often destroyed these towers. Belfries were the first to crumble and collapse. Since they were located up front and attached to the church's edifice, wrecked belfries often meant a devastated church facade.

Detached belfries

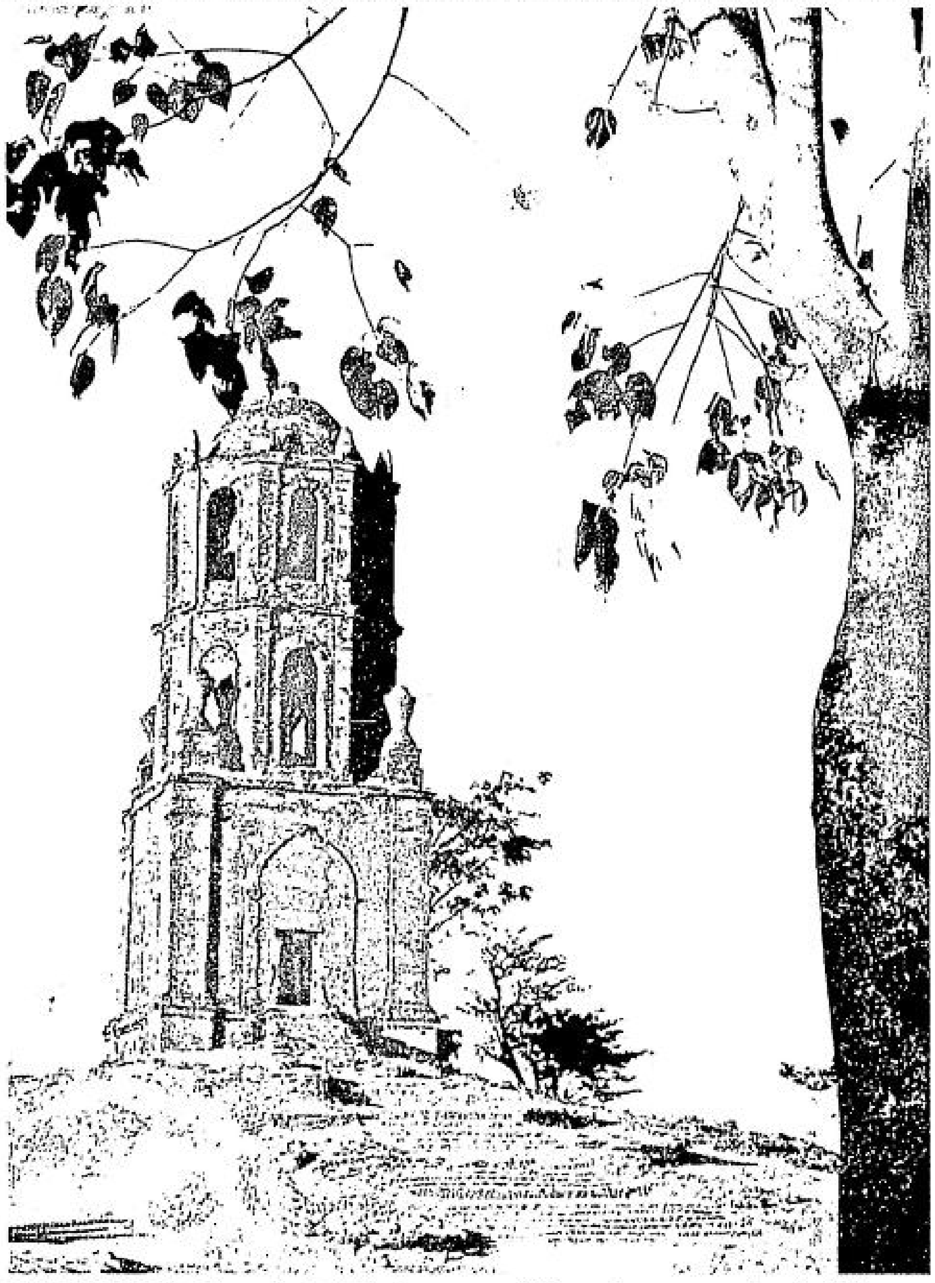
And so was born the heavy "earthquake baroque" churches in the region, marked by belfries detached from the church. The Asuncion de Sta. Maria, inscribed in the Unesco World Heritage List, is a classic example of this exuberant and extravagant architecture.

Baroque, after all, is characterized by a desire to impress, so its architecture and ornamentation were said to be the church's tools to woo a congregation's loyalty.

Brick buttresses and ramparts measuring no less than 4 ft thick support the church's frame. The 3.5-hectare citadel complex is nestled on a hill. It takes 83 steps up the broad, main stairs to get to the terra-cotta-colored church, its stonework breathtaking to look at as one gets nearer.

"The church was built in segmented parts using malleable materials such as crushed coral stones. During tremors, the structure would sway with the flow, not crack under pressure," says Msgr. Reyes.

The vast China Sea can be viewed from the promontory, even without going up the tower. The complex is surrounded by seven hills, with a generous view of rice paddies, the Cordillera mountain ranges and the town below.



THE BELFRY of St. Augustine Parish in Bantay was deliberately constructed at the highest point of the churchyard to double as a watchtower against marauding sea pirates.

Within the compound are the church, a tower, a convent, and two more broad stairs at the back—from the east and from the southwest.

It takes 10-20 years to build "earthquake baroque" churches, says Reyes.

The interior frame of the church is Romanesque in style and form, similar to old churches in Europe. The floor is decorated with expensive and imported glazed tiles, or *azulejos*—about 25 original designs.

Visual feast

In Sta. Lucia town, another church of medieval masonry is distinguished for its classic dome structure in the middle of the church. The ceiling is a dizzying visual feast of elaborate, excessive details, yet another baroque work of art.

Floral themes adorn the church's walls and columns, though sizable areas have been repainted or painted over.

"The problem is, almost every priest who came here changed or added something; each had a different concept of restoration," says parish priest Loreto G. Viloria.

"That's the problem of old churches—there is no unified approach to preservation and restoration. What's being done now is renovation and modernization."

Viloria says the church's structure and columns are original, but the paintings and floor are already modern. The façade, in fact, has been repainted and, yes, renovated. Only the buttresses and walls still bear the original brick and mortar stonework.

Mestizo influence

In the historic city of Vigan is St. Paul Metropolitan Cathedral, a product of mestizo influence like the city that nurtures it.

Four fu dogs adorn the triangular façade, a Chinese symbol of prosperity, and are among many other Chinese elements present in the church, such as the slit eyes on the image of Christ, St. Peter, St. Paul and the cherubs on the original baptistery *retablo*.

FOR WHOM/ H3

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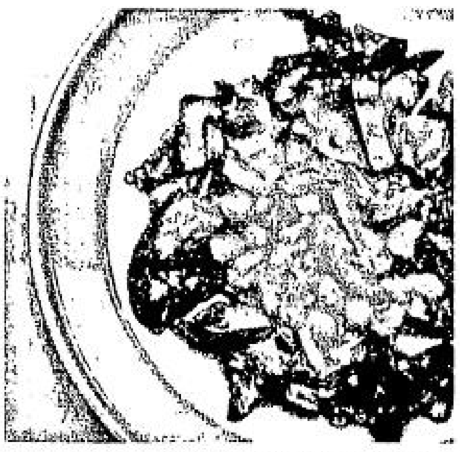
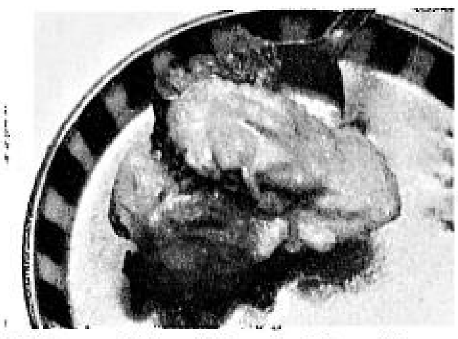
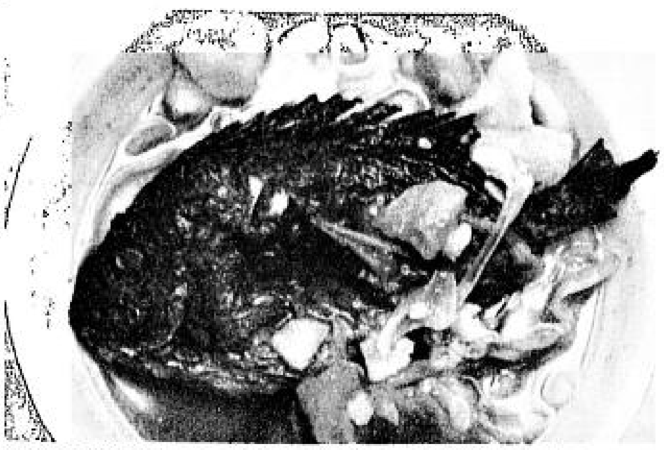


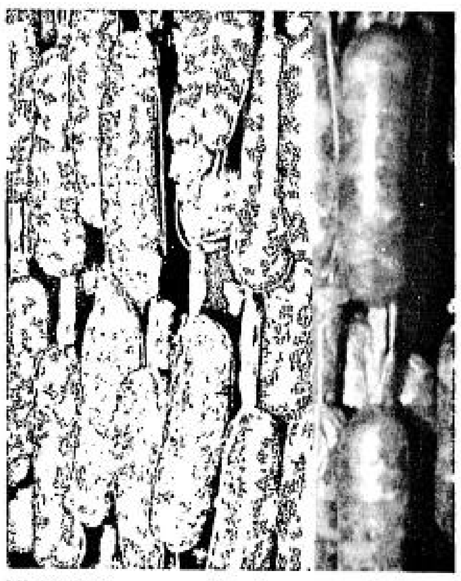
IGADO, a favored dish in Ilocano kitchens, is the North's version of menudo—minus the tomato sauce, carrots and hotdog slices.



THIS ground rice-thickened chicken dish called *pipian* is a popular snack fare. At Kusina Felicitas in Grandpa's Inn, the soup is *kamias*-flavored.



BARADIBOD is a vegetable stew akin to *dinengdeng*. It is flavored with *aramang* (dried shrimp paste) and topped with grilled malaga (*samaral*).



VIGAN'S famous garlicky *longganisa*. It is made with *sukang* Iloko (*basi* wine vinegar) and the extra-flavorful garlic from Sinait town.

Getting a bite of Heritage Site

Text by Cheche V. Moral
Photos by Chito Vecina

IN VIGAN, Ilocos Sur, some things are certain: *Adda ti* load *ken* signal, so no worries for visiting cell-phone freaks from the big city (or anywhere else in this country). But even better, *adu ken naimas ti mak-makan*.

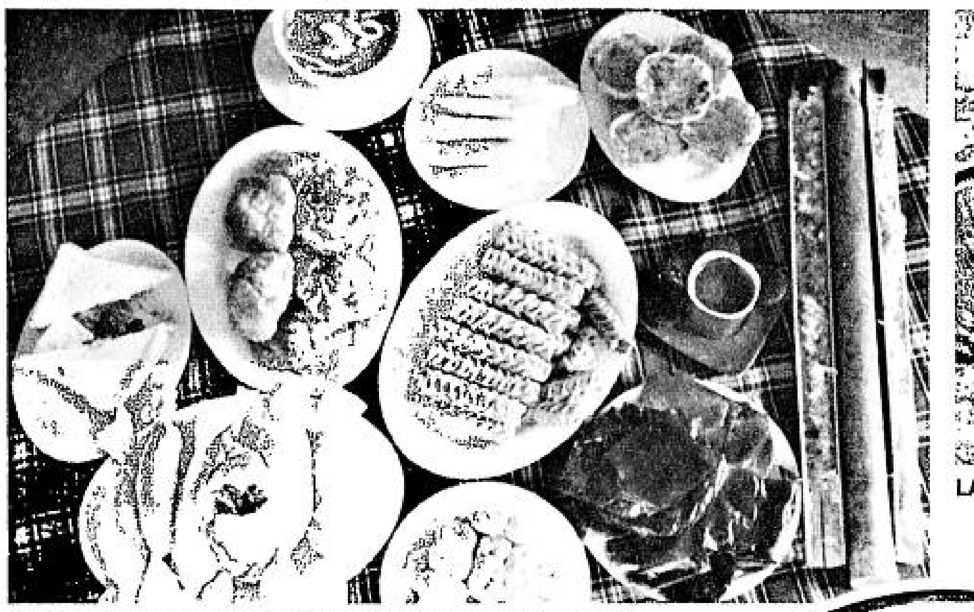
Diak maawatan, you say? We bet our Nokia you understood the first statement about "load" and "signal." The second simply means there is a lot of good food in the touristy city up north. And that's motivation enough for any food-loving traveler to patiently sit through the eight-hour drive from Manila amid eerie tales of ghost sightings in the old mestizo town.

Bigueños are firm in their resolve to keep the distinct and Old-World spirit of the Heritage Site of the Unesco. But it has not prevented the influx of popular burger joints, housed in Vigan-style edifices adjacent to the town plaza.

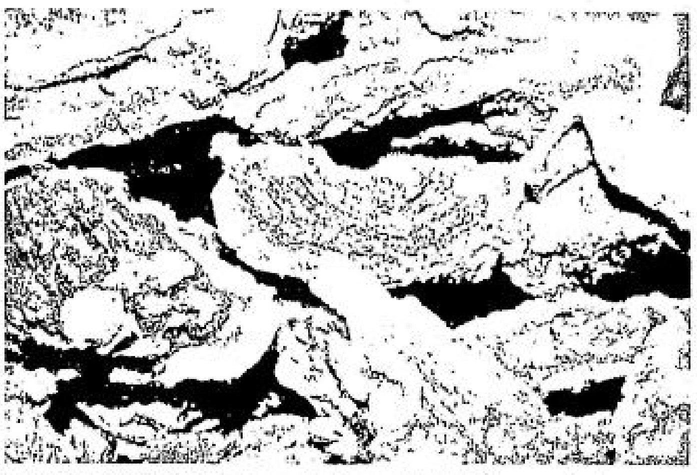
No matter, the sidewalks are still filled with stalls selling the town's famed *empanada* (rice batter rolled thinly and filled with vegetables, eggs and the famous Vigan *longganisa*)—quickly prepared and crisp-fried right before your eyes. The *empanada* is dipped in—or drenched with—spiced *sukang Iloko*. A very filling snack, it sells at P5 for the regular variety (vegetables only) and P20 for the special (with a whole *longganisa* and an egg). There's also the *okoy*, crispy shrimp cakes dipped in vinegar, too.

Life in the fast lane

Business is brisk at dusk, but younger Bigueños, laments a resident, now prefer to hang out in the new fast-food joints. Even vendors no longer squeeze out the sausage filling directly from its casing like they used to. "Now some of them just spoon *giniling* (ground meat) into the mixture!" she complains.



VIGAN merienda fare (clockwise from top left): *miki*, *turrones de mani*, royal *bibingka*, *tinubong*, *kalamay*, *balikutsa*, *empanaditas*, Café Leona *longganisa* burger, *masa podrida*, *canatillos* and *chocolate de Vigan*.



LARGE chunks of *chicharon*-crisp *bagnet* at the Vigan market

There is a lot of good food in touristy Vigan

But for ravenous tourists who don't know any better, the bottom line is taste. And there seems to be no problem in that department.

Ilocano dishes are down home and fairly simple, but each meal is quite an experience. In Vigan, seriously hearty dishes (like the ginger-spiced porkloin soup *lumo-lumo* and the *kamias*- and bile-flavored *sinanglao* soup of beef tripe and entrails) are normally served for breakfast, along with the garlicky *longganisa*, the fish *bagoong*-flavored vegetable dish, *dinengdeng*, and *kinirog* (fried rice). The meal is washed down with cups of rich *chocolate de Vigan*.

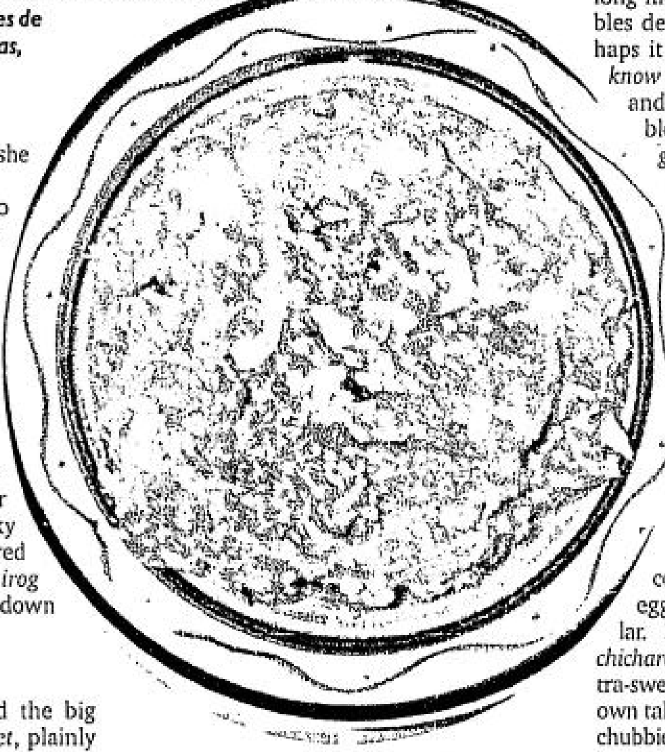
Irresistible 'bagnet'

We personally don't understand the big fuss over the cholesterol-rich *bagnet*, plainly the local version of *litson kawali*. But no one, and we mean no one, is immune to its sinful *chicharon*-crisp goodness. Ilocanos like it served with a side dish of KBL (*kamatis*, *bawang*, *lasona*), or mixed with fresh veggies and *bagoong* for *pinakbet*.

Ilocanos also take pride in their version of the *menudo* called *igado*—*basi* vinegar-simmered porkloin and liver garnished with red bell pepper and *guisantes*. The popular Kapampangan *sisig* takes on an Ilocano form as the spicy *dinakdakan*. Well, sort of—the recipe for the latter calls for mayonnaise.

Ilocanos have quite a variety of seafood and meat *kilawin*, including the "jumping salad" of live shrimps.

Native chicken dishes include the interesting orange *pipian*, a thick *kamias*-flavored soup made of ground rice. In another dish, *sapsapuriket*, chicken blood is mixed into the soup. Cooked generously with *siling haba*, the dish has a nice, welcome kick perfect for cold, rainy days.



IN SPITE of its name, there's nothing funny about the taste of poqui-poqui. A simple dish of boiled eggplant sautéed with onion, garlic and tomato, it is loved by G.I.s (genuine Ilocanos) and tourists alike.

Ilocanos like to brag that the secret to their long life is that they consume lots of vegetables despite the *bagnet* and *longganisa*. Perhaps it would be more accurate to say they *know* how to cook their vegetables—simply and as close to the original taste as possible, usually flavored only with fish *bagoong* or sautéed with *aramang* (dried shrimp). Grilled fish is occasionally added.

There's no shortage of *merienda* and *pasalubong* in Vigan—from flavored *corniks/chichacorn* to *kalamay* to the well-loved royal *bibingka* (sticky rice cake topped with grated cheese). Unique to Ilocanos is the *tinubong*, ground sticky rice mixed with coconut meat and milk, and *tagapulot* (molasses) or brown sugar cooked in bamboo tubes.

Sweet selection

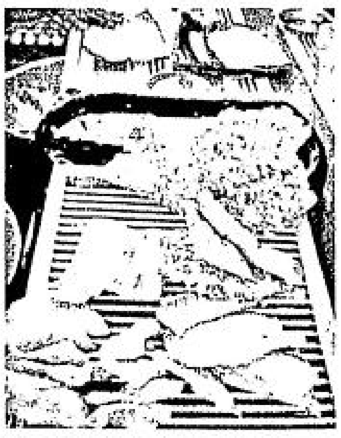
Homemade fresh noodles, or *miki*, cooked with chicken meat, shrimps and egg, and colored with *achuete*, is also popular. In Vigan, they like it topped with *chicharon*. For the sweet-toothed, there's the ultra-sweet *balikutsa* (*panutsa*) or the Ilocanos' own take on *turrones de mani*. The *turrones* are chubbier than most we have tried, and the *ostia*-like wrapping is not as delicate, but the chewy honey-and-peanut filling is a winner.

It's a long way to Vigan but the banquet that awaits a visitor can truly make up for all the stiff and cramped muscles. There's also no shortage of places to sample all that the city has to offer. And if you have to call and ask Mom what she wants you to bring home, you can be confident, *diay* Vigan, *adda ti* load.

Lifestyle Goes to Vigan was sponsored by Globe Telecom.

E-mail the author at cmoral@inquirer.com.ph

SINANGLAO, a bitter-sour soup made of beef tripe, entrails and blood cubes, is perfect for midday snack or as *sida* (viand).



FOOD stalls line the sidewalks of Plaza Burgos, where cheap and filling snacks like *empanada* and *okoy* are prepared and cooked right before your eyes.

House of living memory

From page H4

quired by Don Mena Crisologo, the first civil governor of Ilocos Sur during the American regime.

The ground floor housed the Post Office until 1932 and the branch office of the Philippine National Bank from 1946 to 1965.

Dr. Marciano Crisologo, a son of Mena, inherited the estate. His heirs eventually sold it to the Insular Life Assurance Company on Aug. 22, 1970. Renovated by the Filipinas Foundation Inc., the museum was inaugurated on May 3, 1975.

The Ayalas turned it over to the Ilocos Sur Historical and Cultural Foundation in 1986. It is now under the administration of the National Museum.

"Since this house was turned over from one group to another, the original furniture and home accessories of the Burgos family can no longer be found here. That's why it has to be refurbished," says Efren Vister, officer-in-charge/technician I of the Burgos Museum.

Exhibits

Located near the Provincial Capitol and Burgos East Memorial School and adjacent to the Vigan Cathedral, the Burgos Museum showcases the tools, musical instruments and weapons of the ancient Itneg tribe (forerunners of present-day Ilocanos), as well as wooden sugar milling equipment, a rig (horse-drawn vehicle) and Filipino costumes.

POTTERY for cooking and other kitchen utensils

The Ilocano Hall of Fame features the portraits of distinguished men and women of Ilocos such as Elpidio Quirino, second president of the Republic; Leona Florentino, poetess and playwright; Isabelo de los Reyes, foremost Ilocano nationalist and father of unionism; Mena Crisologo, linguist, author and scholar; Vicente Encarnacion, a statesman who helped draft the 1935 Philippine Constitution; and former President Ferdinand Marcos.

On the second floor are the memorabilia of Father Burgos and his family, together with tri-dimensional dioramas showing the Battle of Tirad Pass, the execution of Fathers Burgos, Gomez and Zamora, tobacco farming and the building of Paoay Church.

Also on display are the priceless 14 paintings depicting the Basi Revolt of 1807 done by Esteban Villanueva in 1821.

"Villanueva was a good painter, although he didn't study fine arts. Most viewers say he lacks perspective because the adults in his works are like giants while the children look like dwarves," says Vister.

Other items of interest include Viennese furniture, heirloom pieces and antique collections donated by Vigan patrons and friends. Black-and-white pictures of local churches adorn the walls, and the museum also hosts a mini-library.

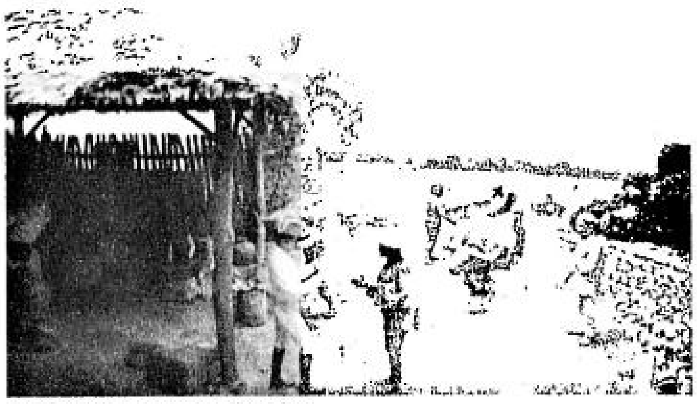
The kitchen has been restored to its period ambience. Here, firewood is used for cooking. There's a "hanging" basket refrigerator, fish dryer, chocolate grinder, filter for drinking water and "*batalan*" for washing.

In the garden, visitors can find a *dadapilan* (sugarcane masher). Sugarcane stalks are fed into the *dadapilan*, which is pulled by a carabao to squeeze the juice out of the sugarcane—exactly as it was done in olden times.

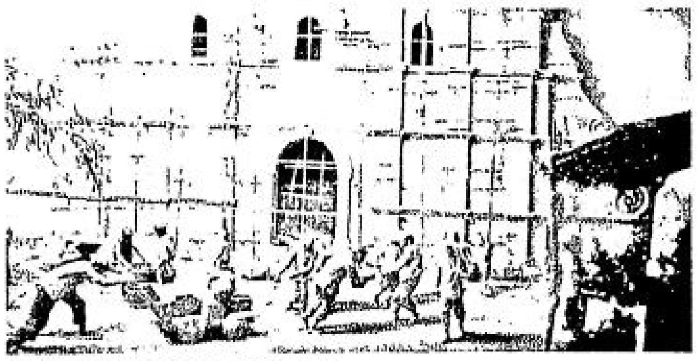
The Burgos Museum is open from 8:30-11:30 a.m. and 1:30-4:30 p.m., Tuesday to Saturday, and by appointment on weekends and holidays. Admission fee is P10 per adult and P5 for children 12 years and below.

Lifestyle Goes to Vigan was sponsored by Globe Telecom.

E-mail the author at rburgos@inquirer.com.ph

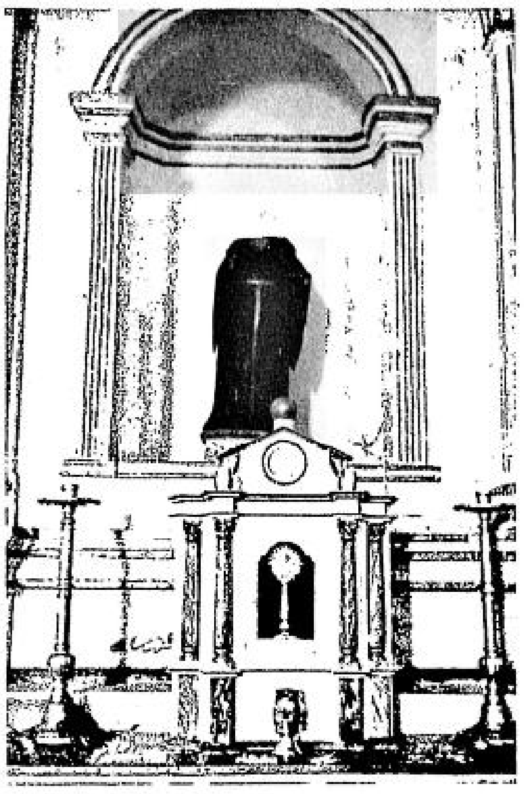


DIORAMA on tobacco farming



THE BUILDING of Paoay Church

THE EXECUTION of Fathers Jose Burgos, Mariano Gomez and Jacinto Zamora



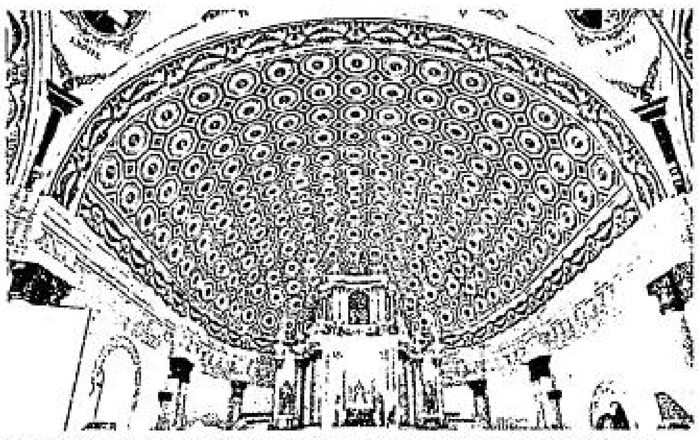
THE IVORY head and hands of St. Benedict were stolen a few years ago, but the image still stands on its niche as a sign of community penance and to make the people aware of its desecration.

THE ORIGINAL image of Santo Cristo Milagroso de Sinait in Sinait. Thousands of devotees gather each year to have a glimpse of and touch this statue, which is said to have miraculous powers.

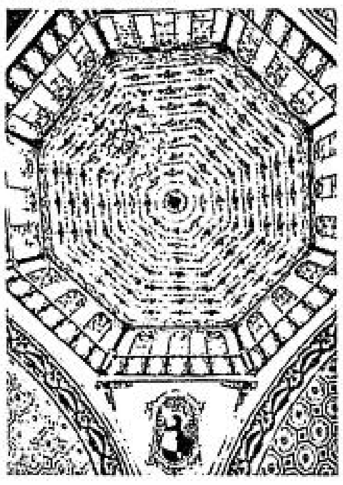
THE MAUSOLEUM of Bishops, where the remains of the bishops of Nueva Segovia are buried in their own niches, is located on the right wing of St. Paul Metropolitan Cathedral.

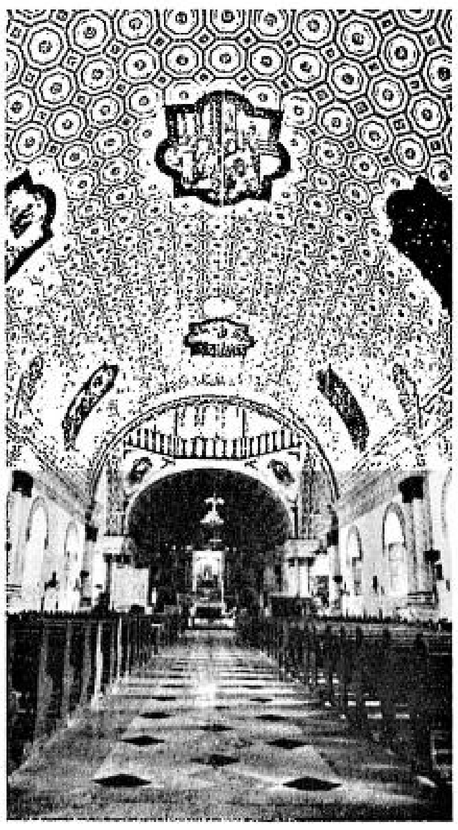
ST. PAUL'S image (topmost) is made of wood, but his face and hands are made of ivory. The vestments of St. Peter as pope (left) and St. Andrew (right) are gilded in 14-karat gold. The altar is made of marble, and the tabernacle's door is covered with silver.

For whom the Northern bells toll



THE TINY image of Sta. Lucia, the patron saint of people with eye ailments, gathers an average of 12,000 devotees every year from all over the country.





CLOCKWISE, from top: The dome ceiling of Sta. Lucia Parish in Sta. Lucia is a classic example of the Baroque period's elaborate designs and visual excess. The stained-glass window of St. Nicholas of Tolentino Parish bears the image of Santo Cristo Milagroso de Sinait, a replica of which can also be found at Sitio Lugo, where the image is said to have originated. And the aisle of Sta. Lucia, the only domed church in Ilocos.

From page H1

Chinese inscriptions are also found on the brass communion handrails.

Constructed under the supervision of two Chinese mestizo brothers, the cathedral is a seamless mix of the West and the Orient.

The detached, 25-meter bell tower, pagoda-influenced with eight sides, and the church are predominantly made of sea stone (*dili*), consistent with other "earthquake baroque" churches in the region.

In Magsingal, the St. William the Hermit Church houses a baroque piece, a centuries-old *retablo* made of solid wood.

The original brick and stone church and belfry were erected in 1676, but was burned down by Ilocos rebel Diego Silang in protest against the forced labor imposed by the Spanish friars.

Today, only the ruined church walls and the intact bell tower stand, though not far from the site are a 19th-century church supported by steep buttresses and a convent.

Strategic location

Of baroque-gothic architecture is the belfry of the St. Augustine Church in Bantay town, perched on top of a hill that overlooks the South China Sea, strategically rising from the highest point of the churchyard.

The 30 steps that lead to its entrance is now in ruins. A garden is currently being constructed within its parched surroundings. The belfry is still functional, but its gates are kept locked to discourage vandals.

A church that attracts hordes of devotees the way the Black Nazarene of Quiapo does is the St. Nicholas of Tolentino Church in Sinait.

Here lies the image of Sto. Cristo Milagroso de Sinait, reportedly discovered by fishermen in 1620 in a wooden box bobbing on the shores of Dadalaquiten, together with the handpainted image of the Blessed Virgin Mary with the Infant Jesus, and two cherubs and a violin.

(The Blessed Virgin went to the Badoc church, the town next to Sinait, and is now known as La Milagrosa de Badoc.)

Made of dark hardwood, the Sto. Cristo Milagroso de Sinait is a crucified image of Christ that excretes a peculiar scent; it may be attributed to the species of the wood, but devotees believe it to be a supernatural phenomenon. The image is said to have protected the town from calamities and epidemics that invaded other pueblos.

A pilgrimage tour of Ilocos Sur featuring eight churches has been launched by the local government. Its main interest, says Reyes, is to promote the province and gain revenues by providing services, but the overall thrust remains spiritual.

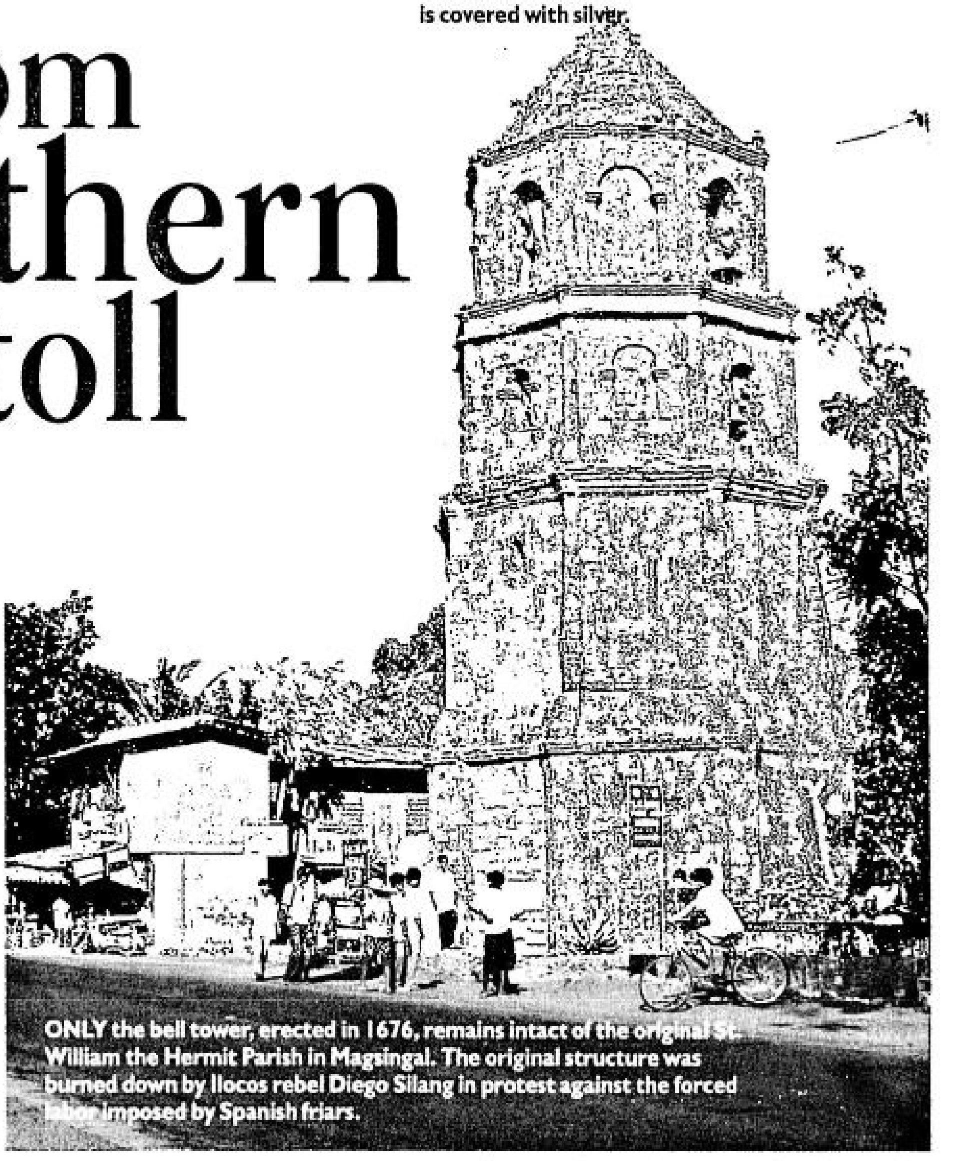
"Ilocos Sur is a place where you can come for pilgrimage. We have shrines here. People can use the program to deepen their faith," he says.

The Ilocos Sur pilgrimage tourism packages may include any or all of the following: transportation, accommodation, meals and tour. (Call (077) 7228520.)

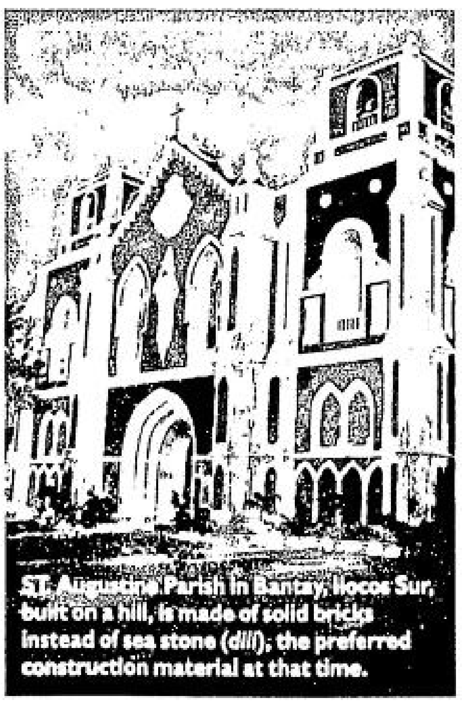
"We have [set up] new toilets for tourists, [and] shower [areas for the] pilgrims. [There will be] adequate parking," says Ilocos Sur Tourism Information Center officer in charge Winona Santos.

Lifestyle Goes to Vigan was sponsored by Globe Telecom.

E-mail the author at ajambora@inquirer.com.ph

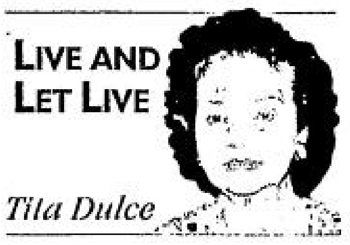


ONLY the bell tower, erected in 1676, remains intact of the original St. William the Hermit Parish in Magsingal. The original structure was burned down by Ilocos rebel Diego Silang in protest against the forced labor imposed by Spanish friars.



ST. Augustine Parish in Bantay, Ilocos Sur, built on a hill, is made of solid bricks instead of sea stone (*dili*); the preferred construction material at that time.

Her husband wants an annulment



LIVE AND LET LIVE
Tita Dulce

DEAR Tita Dulce,

My husband and I got married when I was 20 and he was 21. Now, nine years later, we have a five-year-old daughter and our marriage is on the rocks.

(We) survived the difficulties of the initial years. But just when our life was beginning to stabilize, he began to have other women and our marriage cracked. But he said they were just "flings."

He works abroad and two years ago, when he came home for his annual vacation, he said he wanted a separation (but) the separation was only "emotional"—in public, we were still husband and wife.

He still comes home regularly, we visit relatives together and sleep in one bed, but no intimacies take place between us.

When he returned from abroad last year, he told me he wanted our marriage annulled. I agreed (as) I thought it was best that we officially ended our marriage.

Then, I began having doubts. I still love him. I don't want our child to have a broken home. And I'm not... financially independent.

As far as I know, he has no other family, but lately he has been rushing me to get the annulment started. He said he was willing to spend for everything, and gave me the name and number of a lawyer to consult. But I asked for more time.

I'd tried several times to show that I was willing to reconcile with him, but he ignored me.

My friends said I should not cooperate with him in getting an annulment. But wouldn't I be just prolonging my agony?

ADA

Even if you don't agree to an annulment, you might benefit from consulting a lawyer who specializes in family law. One very important question you should ask is if there is valid ground to have your marriage annulled.

In the Civil Code, infidelity is not a ground for annulment, only for legal separation. And infidelity would have to be "sexual."

You would have to give the court proof of his extramarital affairs, which might be difficult, especially if he is conducting his affairs abroad. Your husband should not deliberately lead you to that proof, much less supply it; if he does, your request for legal separation will be denied. If you don't get the proof on your own, that will mean you are condoning his infidelity—and the court will deny your petition.

Another question you should ask the lawyer is if you should be the one to file for annulment or legal separation. Your letter says it is your husband who wants to end your marriage, while you are for reconciliation. This is not a case you can file on his behalf.

So ignore the pressure to bring your marital problem to the court. Since you want to stay with your husband, there is a good likelihood that, for legal reasons, your husband is stuck with you.

If your husband is the one who wants an annulment or legal separation, why isn't he initiating it?

I have two guesses.

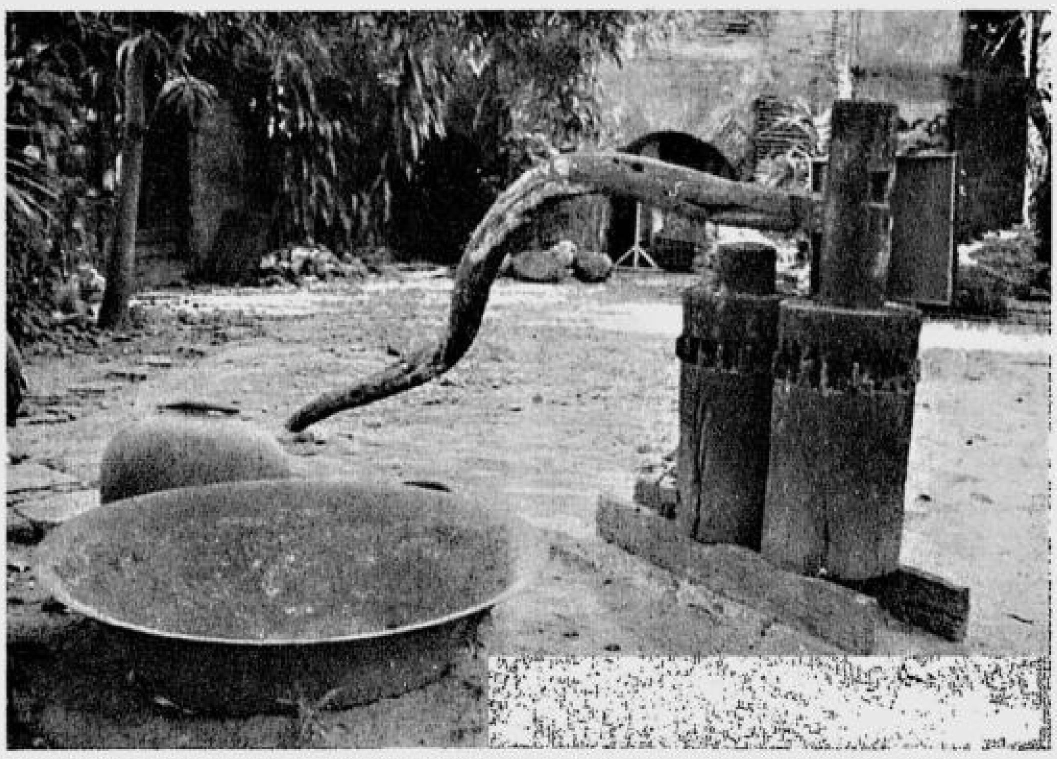
First, he hasn't consulted a lawyer, which could mean he's not serious about ending your marriage. Second, he is serious but he knows he has no legal basis for filing the case, while you can use his infidelity. If he is having an affair, he wants you to set him free rather than sue him for concubinage or adultery.

But the latter explanation is unlikely, assuming that a legal separation is the most he can get from the court. He must know that while legal separation will allow him to live apart from you, you will still be legally married. He will be guilty of concubinage (and face imprisonment) if he lives with another woman.

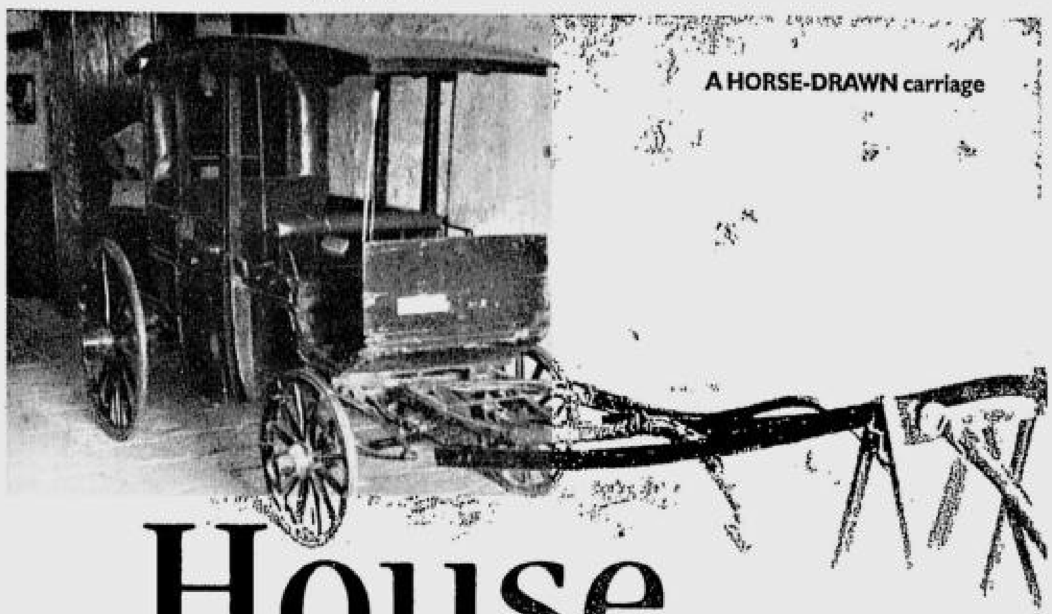
So, I'd stick to my first guess: he's not that serious about ending your marriage. It is possible that he is just turned off by your reaction to his "flings" and wants to give you a big scare, a *golpe de gulat*, so you would not nag him so much or be excessively suspicious. (Incidentally, nagging or jealousy is not a ground for annulment or legal separation.) You might have hurt his feelings a lot when you accused him of unfaithfulness, and you probably hurt him some more when you rubbed it in after you proved it.

From where I sit, presenting your marital problem to a court is not the solution or even a beginning of the solution. It might be more helpful to see a marriage counselor or attend a "marriage encounter" seminar. Get someone to talk him into attending the counseling or seminar with you.

E-mail titadulce@netscape.net or send letters to P.O. Box 2353, Makati CPO 1263 Makati City, or PDI, Chino Roces Avenue corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, Makati City



THE *DADAPILAN* (sugarcane masher) is pulled by a carabao to squeeze the juice out of the sugarcane.



A HORSE-DRAWN carriage

House of living memory

The ancestral home of martyr priest Jose Burgos is now a museum showcasing the best of Ilocandia

Text by Rowena C. Burgos
Photos by Chito Vecina

AN EXCELLENT showcase of archeological and ethnographic treasures, antiques, dioramas of local historical events and photographs of Ilocano heroes and achievers, the two-story Burgos Museum is the old residence of Fr. Jose Apolonio Burgos.

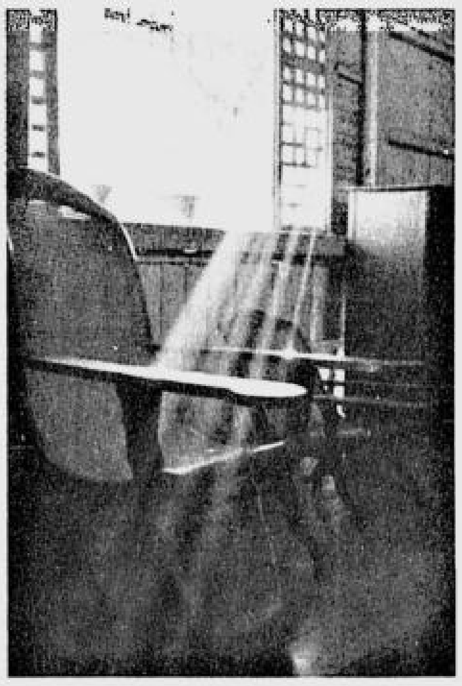
Father Burgos is considered one of the most illustrious sons of Vigan. He fought for ecclesiastical reforms during the Spanish colonial period, and was falsely charged, together with Father's Mariano Gomez and Jacinto Zamora, as masterminds of the Cavite mutiny of 1872. The three were executed by guillotine at Bagumbayan Field (now Luneta Park) on Feb. 17 of the same year.

The martyrdom of these three priests, popularly known as Gomburza, inspired Dr. Jose Rizal to write his second novel, "El Filibusterismo," and helped ignite the Philippine revolution against Spain.

Origins

Built in 1788 by Don Juan de Gonzales, a Spanish soldier from Asturias, Spain, and his wife, Florentina Gascon of Sta. Catalina de Baba, the Burgos ancestral house was then ac-

HOUSE/ H2



ANTIQUE narra chairs

A HARP, a bishop's chair and a phonograph are displayed in a corner of the antesala.

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  Novaliches, Quezon City
  936-2551 to 58
- *ABC Baguio*
- *ABC Cebu*
- *ABC Cagayan de Oro*
- *ABC Legazpi*

ASSOCIATED BROADCAST
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(ABMC)
APMC Building
136 Amorsolo corner Gamboa Sts.
Legaspi Village, Makati City
Tels. 893-8140 and 892-3801

Rence Salud Shops
- *289 E. Rodriguez, Quezon City*
  712-0441
- *Prince Plaza, Legaspi St,*
  Legaspi Village, Makati City
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(For Marilao and Metro Manila)
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DISPLAY OFFICER

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TRAINING OFFICER / TRAINER

graduate of Education, Psychology, Behavioral Science or any 4-year business course; with 2 years related work experience; knowledgeable in the conduct of training needs analysis, design, implementation and evaluation of training programs and activities related to behavior and skill modification of employees.

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(Accounting * Treasury * Customer Service * Merchandising)
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- [illegible]
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[illegible]
For Metro Manila Branches
SM Shoemart, SM Corporate Office Bldg. D 1000 Bay Boulevard, SM Central Business Park, Bay City, [illegible]
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- with 1 to 2 years experience in merchandise purchasing from retail establishments
- with exposure in handling merchandising activities such as buying, negotiating with vendors on pricing and product development

MERCHANDISE PLANNING and CONTROL ANALYST

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Visit our Website : www.sm-shoemart.com
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Description of Responsibilities

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- provides support in formulating, reviewing and evaluating ADB's policies and procedures through research and analysis, and preparation of discussion papers;
- monitors and analyzes regularly ADB's and others donors' operational activities, their historical and anticipated future trends against ADB's strategic goals; operational resource availability and allocation; schedule of key operational milestones; and other relevant issues;
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UNFPA

United Nations Population Fund

The Office of the Representative of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Manila is seeking applications from competent candidates to fill the post of a National Professional Project Personnel (NPPP) for Reproductive Health (RH).

Description of Duties and Responsibilities:

Under the supervision of the UNFPA Representative, the NPPP is the focal point of UNFPA-supported RH activities at the national and provincial levels. More specifically, as part of the Country Office Team, the NPPP:

- Provides assistance to the RH component, as well as the RH aspects of the Population and Development Strategies, Advocacy and Adolescent RH programmes as follows:
  - (a) provides strategic guidance for a pro-poor, gender-responsive, rights-based RH programmes
  - (b) provides technical assistance and guidance to all executing and implementing agencies in the area of RH;
  - (c) prepares consolidated report on RH activities while identifying bottlenecks and recommendations for improving programme/project operations
- Assists in review and revision of programme/project document drafts to ensure completion of all requisite documents and compliance with policies and guidelines
- Reviews, monitors, evaluates and provides technical assistance to projects under the RH programmes at national and provincial levels
- Reviews and monitors programme/project budgets
- Promotes policy dialogue with stakeholders
- Shares strategic state-of-the-art knowledge on RH with colleagues and counterparts
- Coordinates meetings and workshops related to country programme activities
- Performs other programme-related duties as may be required

Essential Specifications and Core Competencies:

- Minimum academic degree; Master's degree in the social sciences preferably in Public Health
- Ten years or more of relevant, demonstrated professional experience in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of projects in the areas of population and reproductive health
- Working experience at provincial and municipal levels
- Ability to analyze complex issues related to socio-economic or public health development objectives, especially in the areas population and reproductive health
- Strong initiative, sound judgement and demonstrated managerial capabilities
- Shows willingness to work without bias with all persons regardless of gender, nationality, religion or culture.
- Excellent negotiation, writing and interpersonal communication skills. Demonstrated ability and intelligence working as member of country office team.

Applicants are requested to send application letter indicating post title together with completed UN Personal History Form (P.11), available in www.unfpa.org.ph/jobs to:

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The Personnel Director, CPILS
Benedicto Building (formerly Harbor View Hotel)
M.J. Cuenco Ave., Cebu City Tel. # (032) 416-7637
Or e-mail: cpils_cebu@hotmail.com

Kids on Focus Learning Center

Is in need of
PRE-SCHOOL TEACHERS
and TUTORS

Pre-school teachers must be graduates of Early Childhood Education or Family Life and Child Development, must speak and write in English fluently and must possess the patience and creativity needed in dealing with 2-6 year olds.

Tutors must be college graduates from UP, Ateneo, Miriam or La Salle, must speak and write in English fluently and must be able to teach the five major subjects in the GS/HS level.

Please send your resumes to
Kids on Focus
11-A Pine st, New Marikina Subd, San Roque, Marikina City
or over e-mail at kidsonfocus@mydestiny.net.

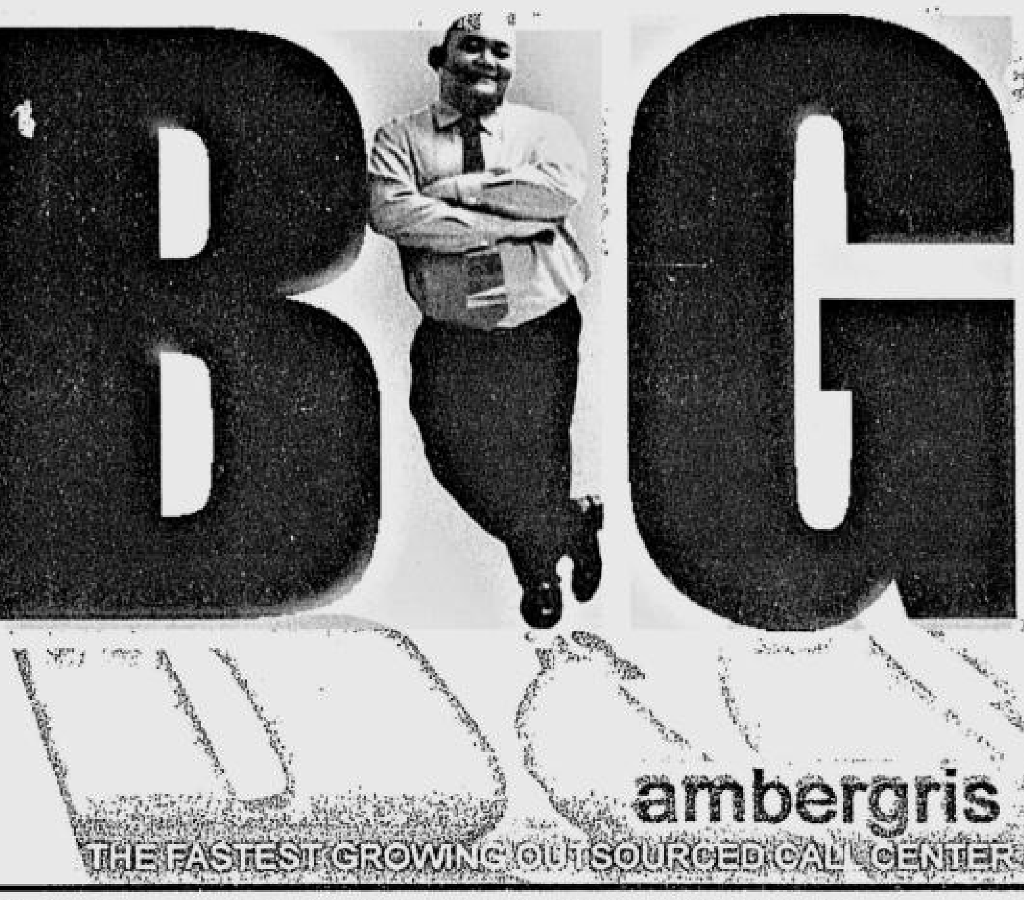
What comes to mind when we mention Ambergris Solutions?

Our continuous growth and the rapid development of our business provide an environment that fosters and develops 21st Century Visionaries with a strong entrepreneurial mindset. Our growing team of talented individuals and our emerging portfolio of heavy weights is a testimony of our reliability and promise in this business.

Ambergris Solutions welcomes MCI to our portfolio of clients. MCI is one of the biggest and most well-established telecommunications companies based in the United States. With an extensive span that serves more than 20 million business and residential customers, MCI delivers a comprehensive selection of local-to-global business data, internet and voice services.

MCI

Think BIG



JOIN THE AMBERGRIS TEAM!

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HR Associates
HR Generalists
Company Nurse
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Trunkline: 638.9440
Fax 638.9445

OPEN HOUSE: Monday-Friday, 10AM-6PM
Walk-ins will be immediately interviewed

submit your resumes online:
recruitment@ambergrissolutions.com

URGENT REQUIREMENT

The **Local Enhancement and Development (LEAD) for Health Project** is a three-year USAID-funded project implemented by Management Sciences for Health (MSH) and its partners. The project aims to strengthen local government provision and management of family planning and selected health services (TB, HIV-AIDS, and vitamin A supplementation), and improve the policies and financing for these services. The project will seek to strengthen the capacity of Local Government Units (LGUs) in the Philippines, particularly cities and muncipalities, to meet the needs of their constituents for family planning and selected health services. The LEAD project has identified the need for local support staff for its Performance-Based Contracts and Grants Units as follows:

One (1) FINANCIAL ANALYST

responsible for the preparation, processing and monitoring of performance-based contracts and grants, with particular emphasis on the financial aspects of subcontracts, and in conducting pre-award surveys of potential subcontractors. The person should at a minimum have 2-3 years of actual audit experience, CPA a definite advantage. Preference will be given to those with experience in US government contracting process.

Two (2) CONTRACTS ASSISTANTS-CENTRAL/REGIONAL

responsible for managing the selection process, negotiating, documenting and administering local and/or regional subcontracts including development of the scope and specifications of subcontracts in conformance with USAID regulations. The position requires at a minimum those in the middle management level, Bachelor of Science degree in a relevant course, preferably with exposure in LGU grants and contracts with a foreign donor.

Two (2) ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANTS FOR CONTRACTS

responsible for providing administrative support to the Unit. Candidates should be graduates of a four year course in Business Administration or Computer Science, with very strong skills in computer applications such as Microsoft Word, Excel, Powerpoint, MS Access, MS project, etc. Preference will be given to those who have worked in international organizations or with foreign donors.

Interested individuals are requested to submit a Letter of Application stating the position applied for together with their resumé either by email or post not later than March 14, 2004 to:

The Performance-Based Contracts Manager
LEAD for Health Project
Management Sciences for Health
11/F, Ma. Natividad Building, 470 T.M. Kalaw
corner Cortada Streets, Ermita, Manila
Email address: pbcmanager@lead.org.ph

An International Consulting Organization is searching for:

CONSULTANT

○ Graduate of a reputable university with good academic background
○ Strong verbal and written communication skills in English
○ Good pc skills such as MS Word, EXCEL and Powerpoint
○ Preferably between 24 to 32 years old
○ At least 3 years work experience in customer relationship or account management
○ Strong leadership and initiative, service-oriented with a positive disposition
○ Proven accomplishment in academic, professional or community activities

Please send your resumé to THE MANAGER, International Consulting via email: cv4consulting@yahoo.com

or mail to Box Code: 888
c/o Philippine Daily Inquirer
5/F, Bldg. B, SM Megamall,
EDSA, Mandaluyong City

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spi technologies *is an ISO 9001 2000 and BS7799 certified company with Business Process Outsourcing expertise in large-scale Content Capture, Conversion and Enrichment, Financial and Transactional BPO, Litigation Support, Editorial and Content Production, Healthcare Documentation, Legacy Software Maintenance, Application Development and Database Solutions.*

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

SAP HRIS Specialists (SAP)

- ✓ College graduates of any four or five-year course.
- ✓ Knowledgeable in HR work, dealing with implementation of HRIS Systems, emphasis in Payroll / Timekeeping and Records Management.
- ✓ Preferably with SAP Systems background.
- ✓ Process and detail-oriented.
- ✓ Excellent communication skills in English.
- ✓ Adept in Technical and Business Writing.
- ✓ With good presentation skills.

Junior Quality Specialist (JQS)

- ✓ Graduate of any four- or five-year Computer course.
- ✓ Knowledge in different concepts of total quality management such as quality circle, customer satisfaction measurement.
- ✓ Working experience in the implementation of ISO 9000, SPC, Six Sigma and TQM Programs.
- ✓ Experience in network management, system administration.
- ✓ Highly analytical and adept in data analysis.
- ✓ Excellent interpersonal, communication & presentation skills.
- ✓ New graduates with excellent scholastic records are invited to apply.

Project Officer (PO)

- ✓ College graduate of Management, Engineering, Mathematics, Economics or Statistics, Computer Science or any computer-related courses.
- ✓ Above average scholastic record.
- ✓ Knowledge in basic personal computer operations.
- ✓ Knowledge in programming is an advantage.
- ✓ Must possess good leadership qualities.
- ✓ With good communication skills in English.
- ✓ At least one year supervisory work experience in the production industry.
- ✓ Preferably with knowledge in Information Management.

Employee Relations Specialist (ERS)

- ✓ College graduate of Psychology, Behavioral Science, Management, Sociology, and Human Resources.
- ✓ At least 2 years of related work experience.
- ✓ Possess excellent communication skills in English.
- ✓ Must possess good analytical skills.
- ✓ Should be knowledgeable in labor laws as well as setting up and organizing Labor Management Councils (LMC)

Management Trainees (MTP)

- ✓ Well-honed leadership skills and project management abilities.
- ✓ Honor graduates from reputable colleges and universities.
- ✓ Creative and innovative thinkers.
- ✓ Excellent communication skills in English.
- ✓ Knowledge in programming will be an advantage.
- ✓ Knowledge and experience either in Payroll using SAP or other HRIS Systems, or Compensation and Benefits (for HR Management Trainees only).
- ✓ Thrive in a challenging, dynamic, fast-paced and multi-cultural environment.
- ✓ Well-rounded interpersonal and customer relations.
- ✓ New graduates with excellent scholastic records are invited to apply.
- ✓ Work experience in the following industries, an advantage: Publishing, Information Technology, Manufacturing, Semiconductor, Medical Transcription.

Production Supervisor (PS)

- ✓ Graduate of any four- or five-year course
- ✓ With above average scholastic records
- ✓ Must have at least 1 year supervisory work experience in any of the following industries: BPO, Information Technology, Manufacturing, Semiconductor
- ✓ Must have good oral and written communication skills in English.
- ✓ Preferably with knowledge in basic computer operations.
- ✓ Must be willing to work on shifts

Please send your applications to the following email addresses: For PO: a.ginez@spitech.com; for ERS, SAP, JQS and MTP; m.agabao@spitech.com; or visit our website: www.spitech.com (click on Careers, then Current Opportunities); or Fax to: 851-7092 loc. 211
You can also mail them to: SPI HR Office 2F Sky Freight Building C NAIA Ave. corner Pascor Drive Sto. Niño, Parañaque City 1700

We are a leading Glass Processing Company that in need of reliable individuals for the positions:

Marketing Assistant – Female; not more than 35 years of age, fresh graduates are welcomed; with pleasing personality; with good communication skills, aggressive (should be able to prove it); can work independently or with 1 group; should possess basic computer skills.
CODE: MA

Production Coordinator – Male; not more than 35 years of age, preferably Industrial Engineering Graduate or at least have attained 3rd year of the said course; preferably with knowledge in scheduling; with knowledge in production reporting and documentation; aggressive, analytical and assertive.
CODE: PC

Receptionist – Female; college graduate; fresh graduates are welcomed; not more than 35 years of age; with excellent written and oral communication skills; highly organized; with pleasing personality.
CODE: RS

All applicants must reside in the vicinity of Mandaluyong, San Juan, Pasig, Quezon City, Makati, Manila, Marikina.

Submit resumé with recent 2x2 photo and indicate CODE for the position being applied for. Send to:

The Philippine Daily Inquirer
Box: KA-017-04KG
Ground Floor, Trinity Bldg.,
No. 636 TM Kalaw St., Ermita
or E-mail to vetrolavoro@yahoo.com

KMBI

A Christian development organization engaged in Microfinance & Business Development Services needs the following staff for its expansion in Calabarzon area (Sta. Cruz, San Pablo, Calamba, Batangas, Quezon), Caraga Region (Butuan, Surigao, Agusan), Bicol & Southern Mindanao areas.

Finance Officer

- Male/Female, a graduate of Accountancy
- Values driven, diligent worker & team leader
- Willing to be assigned anywhere in Luzon/Mindanao
- With 3-5 years supervisory experience, CPA is an advantaged
- Exceptionally adept with all facets of finance & accounting

Business Devt. Services/Transformation Associate

- Male/Female, a graduate of any 4-year course
- Values driven, diligent worker & team player
- Willing to be assigned anywhere in Luzon/Mindanao
- With 1-2 years exp. in community organizing
- Innovative, people oriented and motivator
- An active Christian

Audit Assistants/Associates

- Male/Female, a graduate of Accountancy
- Values driven, diligent worker & team-player
- Willing to be assigned anywhere in Luzon/Mindanao
- With 1-2 years auditing experience

Accounting Associates

- Male/Female, a graduate of Accountancy
- Values driven, diligent worker & team-player
- Willing to be assigned anywhere in Luzon/Mindanao
- With advanced branch to branch/head office accounting background

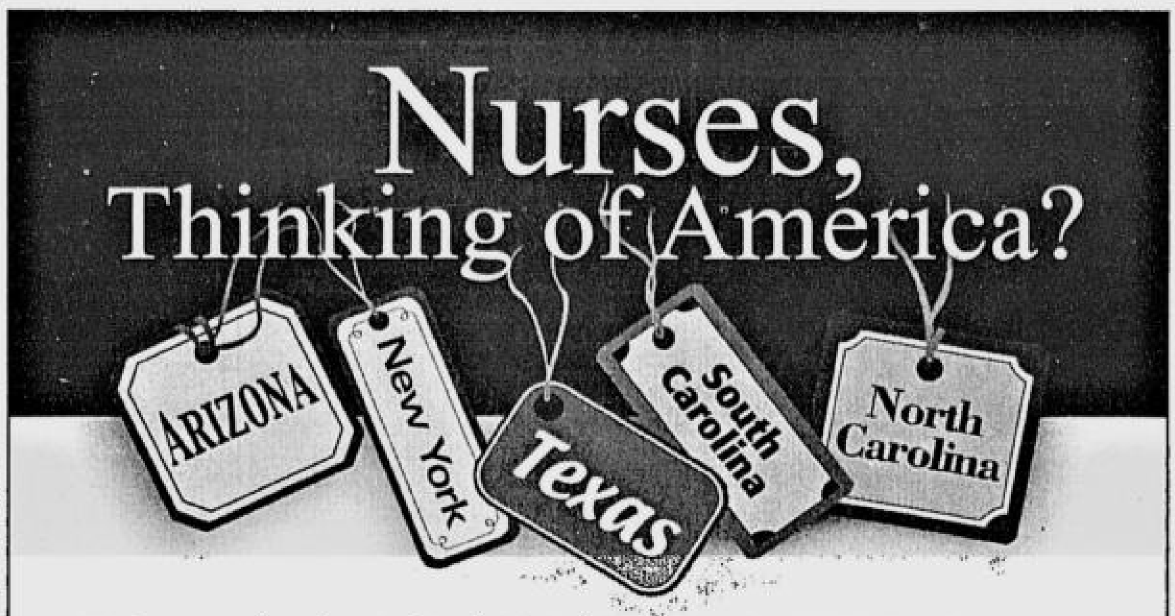
Program Assistants

- Male/Female, graduate of any business/social science course
- Values driven, diligent worker and people oriented
- Willing to do field work, and willing to be assigned anywhere in Luzon/Mindanao (Calamba, Sta. Cruz, Batangas, San Pablo, Agusan, Kidapawan)
- Team-player, innovative

Interested applicants may submit their comprehensive resume with 2x2 picture at the HRD Dept., KMBI Head Office, #12 KMBI Bldg., San Francisco St., Karuhatan, Valenzuela City or email at kmbi@skyinet.net or m_orodio@yahoo.com
Telephone Numbers: 291-1484-85; Fax No: 292-2441

We offer above minimum salary rates, Php1-M Accident Insurance Coverage, Health Benefit, Rice Allowance, and Incentive Package on top of the statutory benefits, plus a chance to travel locally and international.

Nurses, Thinking of America?



We have excellent hospitals in the United States. Join the HCCA Family. We are selective but if you qualify and are hired, you receive:

- $20 - $26 per hour minimum starting salary range
- $6,000 USD bonus over 24 month contract
- $3,000 USD bonus for third year
- Time and a half for overtime and holidays
- Contributory health insurance (Only $40 per month for the nurse)
- Daily HCCA presence to serve your needs and answer your questions
- 22 days paid leave per year
- Free round trip flight back to Manila after 3rd year with HCCA
- Free NCLEX reviews
- Free NCLEX and IELTS exams
- Free travel accommodation and per diem for NCLEX
- Free web based educational assessments for NCLEX preparation
- Free NCLEX review books for take home study
- Free use of computer lab with internet for studying
- Free use of modem library and learning center in Manila
- Free VCD, DVD, VHS tapes and book loans for home study
- Free airfare to the United States
- Interest free loan for Packet 3 dependents
- No "legal" fees; "professional fees" or placement charges.

NEW – Immediate employment signing bonuses for new hires, including: Passing IELTS in next six weeks ($250); Already having: IELTS or TOEFL/TSE ($500); CG and passing IELTS in next four months ($1000); CG and IELTS ($1500); NCLEX and passing IELTS in four months ($2500); NCLEX and IELTS ($3000). Contact us or the POEA for the specific details.

125 NURSES CURRENTLY REQUIRED

To qualify for employment, you must not be under contract with a Philippine recruitment agency. You must be currently employed for six (6) months in a 150 + bed acute care hospital and working in Medical, Surgical, ICU, CCU, Orthopedic and Ob/Gyn units. You must be fluent in English and successfully satisfy HCCA's hiring standards. Required documents include: resume, college diploma, transcript of records, board ratings, board certificate, PRC ID, updated employment certificate, birth certificate, passport and marriage certificate, if any and any results of CGFNS/NCLEX/TOEFL/TSE/IELTS exams, plus 4 pcs. 2x2 colored photos.

Absolutely, positively, no fees or hidden costs anywhere!

HCCA INTERNATIONAL

Philippine Overseas Employment Administration

Apply at the **POEA Government Placement Branch**, windows P & O, ground floor, left wing, Blas F. Ople Building (formerly POEA) EDSA cor. Ortigas Avenue, Mandaluyong, Tel. 722-1174 or 722-1175 **(Immediate processing and no lines. See Project Officer Ms. Blenda)** or your local POEA office Applications may also be picked up in Makati at the Enterprise Center, 33rd/F Tower 1, 6766 Ayala Avenue corner of Paseo De Roxas. 63(2) 757-1000.

Secure your future now!

NEW ZEALAND

THE BETTER ALTERNATIVE

If you are one of the following and have been dreaming of a brighter future for you and your family, now is your chance to make it into a reality.

We will assist you with your registration and Visa requirements

PLEASE COME AND SEE US NOW!!!

- **Nurses**
- **Teachers (Primary, Secondary, & Pre-school)**
- **Dieticians**
- **Occupational Therapists**
- **Physiotherapists**
- **Radiographers and Radiation Therapists**
- **Electricians**
- **Accountant (senior position only)**
- **Appliance Service Technician**
- **Refrigeration & Airconditioning Technician**
- **Dental Technician**
- **Dentist**
- **Drainlayer**
- **Gasfitter**
- **Line Mechanic (working in electricity supply industry)**

ISA Management Services
New Zealand Immigration Consultancy

I.S.A. Management Services
Unit 17-A Marikina East Centre Bldg.
83 Mayor Gil Fernando Ave. (formerly Tuazon)
San Roque, Marikina City
Tel.: 944-0014 / 944-0031
Mobile: +63.917.534.3047 / +63.917.278.8436

We are not a recruitment agency

A Chinese School is looking for the following:

TEACHERS

in Pre-School, Elementary, and High School

Please bring resumé with transcript of records and letter of application at:
#1646 Paz St., Paco, Manila

Wanted:

2D-Echo Ultrasound Tech, F, w/exp.
Driver, Nurses, Res Physician
Apply at Angeles Medical Center, Angeles City or call (045) 3235452
Look for Ms. Deleon

We Urgently Need:

SALES Agents/Acct./Assistant

> Coll. Grad./corporate sales exp.
> Computer knowledge/ consumables
> Exp. in telemarketing & field work

Tel: 852-4577 > Jonjon Fax: 852-4541

PROGRAMMERS WANTED

CATIZANET LLC a US based network security company located in the Tri-Valley area of Silicon Valley is looking for programmers proficient in the following

JAVA, ASP, PERL, HTML, XML, CRM & DATABASE PROGRAMMING, NETWORKING

Programmers can work from remote locations and report to project manager periodically

Please e-mail resume as MS Word attachment to jobs@catizanet.com

www.catizanet.com "JUST GET IT DONE"

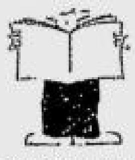
* Catizanet LLC is an equal opportunity employer

★JOB OPENING★

OFFICE STAFF & MANAGEMENT TRAINEES

Male/Female, Single/Married, College graduate of any course.
Apply in person with resume & any original credentials.
Hiring will be on Monday to Saturday, 8.00 am to 5.00 pm, March 8 to 13, 2004
APPLY AT:
Suite 808, West Tower, Tektite Phil. Stock Exchange Center, Exchange Road, Ortigas, Pasig City
(Back of Megamall near San Miguel Bldg.)
Note: Qualified applicants will start immediately.
Look for Mr. Isidro for interview
1st come-1st served basis
"attach this ad to your resume"

Where you find the best.



JOBMarket ONLINE
VISIT US AT
www.jobmarketonline.com

IN NEED OF ACCOUNTING STAFF

Main job: To do general accounting functions

- Female, single, 21-28 years old
- B.S Accountancy graduate
- With one year related experience (Payroll, Petty Cash, SSS/BIR/Philhealth remittances)
- Has initiative and self-motivated
- Results-oriented and a good team player
- Computer and internet literate
- Good oral and written communication skills
- With good and pleasing personality

Interested individuals may send their resumé, recent 2x2 photo, letter of application and photocopy of their Transcript of Records to the following e-mail sci_phils@yahoo.com or fax 672-0519

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

NURSE, MIDWIFE,
MED. SEC.
OR COLLEGE GRADUATE

FEMALE, SINGLE
WILLING TO WORK IN A SKIN CARE CLINIC

Contact: 09193288639

Aeries International Management, Inc.
Salcedo Village, Makati City

Hiring the Best!

Opening Positions for Secretary and Computer Office Clerks

Candidates must possess knowledge of computer language, proficiency in English communication and ability to handle management skills. Those positions will require travel time within the country performing related job fair program.

Interviews start on March 2. Please bring your resumé stating personal references.

Call Ana Copingco for appointment at (632) 844-4300 or at 0917-3271379

FAR EASTERN UNIVERSITY
Nicanor Reyes Street, Sampaloc, Manila

announces openings for

DISCIPLINE OFFICERS

Qualifications:

- must be a B.S. in Criminology graduate
- with at least one year related work experience

Please send letter of application, resume, copies of transcript of records, diploma, other credentials and photo to:

Mr. Cef D. Sta. Maria
Vice President for Operations

Ground Floor, Administration Building
Nicanor Reyes Street, Sampaloc, Manila
cstamaria@feu.edu.ph
Telefax 736-0853
www.feu.edu.ph

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bench/ now hiring!

BOUTIQUE MANAGER – TRAINEES

- ⊙ Male/Female; single or married;
- ⊙ Between 21-30 years old;
- ⊙ Graduate of any Business related courses;
- ⊙ Preferably with work related experience in retail / food operations but not necessary;
- ⊙ Willing to work in shifting schedule and during holidays;
- ⊙ Possesses leadership and supervisory potentials;
- ⊙ Good communication skills;
- ⊙ Results-oriented, hardworking and can work with minimum supervision.

AD & PROMO OFFICER

- ⊙ Male, not more than 30 years old;
- ⊙ Graduate of AB Mass Communication or Advertising from a reputable university;
- ⊙ Knowledgeable of advertising requirements, observations, and conceptualizing/implementing market planning, promotions and launching campaigns;
- ⊙ Can develop creative and effective advertising concepts;
- ⊙ Excellent in oral and written communication;
- ⊙ At least 2-3 years experience in the same capacity;
- ⊙ Aggressive, creative and can work independently.

MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATE

- ⊙ Female; between 22-28 years old;
- ⊙ Industrial Engineering or Business Management graduate form a reputable schools;
- ⊙ With or without experience; self-starter;
- ⊙ Resourceful and able to work under minimum supervision.

Previous applicants need not apply.
Please come for screening/interview and bring your resumé with transcript of records and 2 x 2 ID picture from 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

SUYEN CORPORATION
2214 Tolentino Street, Pasay City

We are one of the biggest companies in the country and in view of our expansion, we are looking for qualified individuals for the following positions:

JUNIOR MANAGERS
Must be at least 20-46 years old
Graduate of any 4-year course
With or without experience
Willing to be trained

MARKETING CONSULTANT
Must be at least 20-46 years old
Graduate of any marketing or related courses
Knowledgeable in marketing techniques and advertising concepts

MANAGEMENT TRAINEES
Must be at least 18 years old
At least college level
Willing to work in an office operation

Interested applicants may apply in person at
#235 C Mercan Bldg., EDSA Ext'n. Pasay City
(walking distance from EDSA LRT and Taft MRT Station, near Value Point Mall beside Allied Bank and Super Bike Motors) or may send their comprehensive resume via email to this address:
hrmail_center@yahoo.com

Look for Ms. Estrada

* Clip this ad to your resume *

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE
COPYWRITER
ARTIST / VISUALIZER

Qualifications:
Male or female
With at least 1 year experience in the advertising industry
With effective presentation skills
Proficient in MS Word, Excel & Powerpoint and Macintosh art programs (for artist)
Diligent, aggressive and creative
Able to work with minimum supervision

Please send your resumé to:
BEGINNINGS COMMUNICATIONS, INC.
5th Level REMCO Tower
61 West Capitol Drive
Kapitolyo, Pasig City
Tel. No. 638-9478 / Fax No. 687-2861
e-mail address: janiceb@beginnings.com.ph

We are developing a highly creative, innovative team to help us remain dedicated to originality.

Our Clients and the markets we specialize in are as varied as our ideas.

Create, share and be a part of our synergy ... If you have the following skills:

3D Modeler / Renderer / Animator
(experienced in multimedia applications)

In addition, experience with
Photoshop
Premiere
After Effects
3DS Max
Flash / Director / action script

Send your resumé with photo to:
jobs@danksdesigngroup.com

*****WANTED IMMEDIATELY*****
CUSTOMER SERVICE CLERK
and
HUMAN RESOURCE CLERK

Qualifications:

- Female (single)
- 21-25 years old
- Graduate of any Business course
- Graduating students may apply

Send to: U.P. P.O. Box 15,
DILIMAN, QUEZON CITY

- comprehensive resumé
- records of grades
- 2x2 or 1 1/2 x 1 1/2 ID picture

Our office is located at San Juan

UK
TRADE &
INVESTMENT

TRADE & INVESTMENT OFFICER

The British Embassy's Trade & Investment Section seeks a Trade & Investment Officer to assist and advise British firms doing business in the Philippines in the agriculture, retail, textile and consumer goods sectors. The duties include giving general and specific information on the assigned market sectors, products and projects; organising trade missions and exhibitions; and developing a network of well placed contacts.

Applicants should be university graduates with a good degree majoring in business or economics. Further requirements for this senior position are five years experience in business development or marketing and an established range of contacts within commerce and government. The successful candidate will need a strong command of written and oral English, an ability to think clearly and an outgoing, confident personality. He or she will also be required to undertake a small amount of travel within the Philippines and must be available to attend a limited number of business events after office hours. There will also be a need to travel within Asia and to complete a training course in London and thereafter to visit the United Kingdom as required.

Starting salary is Pesos 48,384 net monthly plus benefits, rising annually according to your performance.

The British Embassy is an equal opportunities employer. Applications in writing with curriculum vitae, photograph and self-addressed stamped envelope to:

The Management Officer
British Embassy
17/F, LV Locsin Building
6752 Ayala Avenue
Makati City

Applications must be received on or before Tuesday, 16 March 2004.

STRICTLY NO ENQUIRIES BY TELEPHONE PLEASE.

Asiana Airlines, recognized as one of the progressive air carriers of the world, is now in active search of respectable

FLIGHT ATTENDANTS

Who are envisioned to capture the airline's significant markets through their meaningful service and value-added charm

If you are a vibrant, young Filipino female who carries an extremely pleasing stand-out personality, then you might be the "success gem" that we are looking for...

- Single
- A 4 year college graduate
- Born after Jan. 01, 1981
- Stand at least 5 feet and 3 inches (in barefoot)

If you possess all these attributes,
then we would like to hear from you.

Make sure that your letter of intent encloses a comprehensive resumé, full body (studio shot) and passport-size picture, birth certificate, passport copy, academic records and other work-related documents.

Interested applicants are requested to personally submit their requirements from March 8 to 12, 2004.

ASIANA AIRLINES OFFICE
6/F The Salcedo Towers
169 H.V. Dela Costa Street, Makati City

CLEARPACK PHILIPPINES INC.

Clearpack is a **multinational company** with head office in Singapore & other branches in South East Asia, Middle East, etc. apart from the Philippines office.
We are the leading suppliers of packaging equipment & solutions in the region.

Clearpack Philippines Inc. is urgently looking for aggressive professionals to fit the following positions.

Sales Engineers:

1. Preferably with at least 3-5 years experience in packaging / industrial machinery.
2. Self-motivated & with initiative.
3. Having valid Passport and drivers license

Secretary/Sales Coordinator

1. Must be articulate, has good communication skills & reliable.
2. Excellent communication skills in oral & business written English.
3. Computer literate fluent in Microsoft office.

We offer attractive salary, allowance & other fringe benefits with commensurate with experience & qualification. We also provide overseas training opportunities.

Interested applicants may send in their resume' through e-mail: jobp@clearpack.com or via post mail in:

Clearpack Philippines Inc.
G/F 195 Doña Soledad Ave. Extn.
Betterliving Subd. Parañaque 1711 Manila

Canada-based Manulife Financial, one of the world's largest financial institutions, is looking for qualified

BUSINESS FRANCHISE DEVELOPERS

for Bacolod and Iloilo

Who are willing and able to help build our agency operations in our Iloilo and Bacolod Offices. Interested parties must possess the following qualifications:

- For Bacolod: Preferrably a resident of Bacolod City proper, Talisay City, Silay City and Bago City
- For Iloilo: Preferrably a resident of Iloilo City proper, Jaro, La Paz, Mandurriao, Molo and Oton
- 28-48 years of age
- Graduate of any 4-year college course
- At least 2 years in a management position preferably in sales
- Must have experience in building his/her own team (hiring, training and supervising)
- Previously earning a monthly income of P20,000 and above (must be willing to show proof of previous income)
- Must have a history of past successes in his/her professional career
- Possesses a strong work ethic (prepared and willing to work a minimum of 50 hours a week)
- Possesses good people skills, integrity and a positive attitude
- Preferably with no previous Life Insurance or Pre-need selling experience

Come build your own business with Manulife.

Email your resume to Dick Aquino at dicaq@iloilo.net or send it via mail to following addresses:

2/F MC Metroplex Bldg.
B.S. Aquino Drive
Bacolod City, Negros Occidental

2/F PBCOM Building
Ledesma cor. Valeria Streets
Iloilo City

Manulife
Helping you make better financial decisions.

The Manufacturers Life Insurance Company (Philippines), Inc.
LKG Tower, 6801 Ayala Avenue, 1226 Makati City
www.manulife.com

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zed™

PROJECT EMPLOYEE

Sonera zed Philippines, Inc., a leading mobile service provider, is looking for a dynamic young person to fill in the role of temporary Project Employee Primary responsibility is to assist the BusinessManagement team in the conceptualization, development and launching of mobile value added services

Requirements:

- Must be a fresh graduate
- Proven academic background
- Excellent communication skills
- Computer literacy is a must
- Must have a Business, Marketing or similar degree

Qualified applicants may send their resume with a 2x2 photo and transcript of records to MCPO Box 1153, Makati City 1251 or fax it to 8841851

FORTUNE MEDICARE, INC.

Needs

REGIONAL MANAGER

Marketing & Sales, Visayas and Mindanao

with the following qualifications

- Preferably residing within Cebu or Metro Cebu
- College graduate
- Experience in marketing and branch operations
- Dynamic and results-oriented
- Leadership capabilities

Qualified and interested applicants are requested to send or e-mail their comprehensive resumé, 2x2 photo and letter of applicants to:

Adrian J. Ansaldo
Fortune Medicare, Incorporated
3rd Floor Citystate Centre Bldg.
709 Shaw Blvd., Pasig City
Fax: 633-6968
E-mail: aansaldo@fcarehmo.com.ph

Why settle for just any call center? We're offering you an advantage.

Customer Service Representatives

Think all call centers are the same? Think again. At TeleTech, we're anything but ordinary. We're one of the world's most successful call center operations - with world-class work environment, great teams, and clientele that includes one of America's biggest Internet service providers. Put them all together and you've got a work place full of opportunity and loaded with fun!

For this technical help desk role, we're looking for highly-driven individuals who have strong command of the English language and excellent reasoning ability, are customer service-oriented, analytical and solutions-focused, knowledgeable in Internet applications, able to interpret an extensive variety of technical instructions and deal with abstract and concrete variables.

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Or send us your resumé at OPSjobs@ph.teletech.com.

ZEST-O
CORPORATION

A Leading Filipino Food & Beverage Company
NEEDS:

PRODUCT / BRAND MANAGER

- Male/Female, 21-25 years old, College Graduate with good oral and written communication skills, computer literate
- Must have at least 1 to 2 years of Brand Management experience
- Organized, analytical, aggressive and results oriented
- A team player, can work with people in all levels

SALES SUPERVISOR

- College Graduate, with good oral and written communication skills
- Have at least 2 years sales supervisory experience
- Must be aggressive and results oriented
- Can drive with a valid driver's license
- Willing to travel and be assigned in different areas

BRAND TRAINEE

- Male/Female, 21-22 years old
- Fresh graduate of any 4-year course with good academic record and active in extra-curricular activities
- With good oral and written communication skills
- A team player, can work with people in all levels
- Organized, analytical and results oriented
- Willing to travel in the province for trade check
- Computer literate

Interested applicants can mail their resumé with most recent I.D. picture to the address stated hereunder. Please indicate position being applied for. Only qualified applicants will be scheduled for interview.

MARKETING DEPARTMENT
ZEST-O CORPORATION
574 EDSA, Caloocan City 1400

WANTED

For
MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS COLLEGE
Margarita St., Pasong Tala, Dasmariñas, Cavite
Tel. Nos. (046) 416-12-76-77; Fax: (046) 416-12-78

Teachers for:
Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education
Bachelor of Science in Education
Bachelor of Science in Commerce
Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Qualifications:
Master of Arts/Doctor of Education

Teachers for:
Pre-School
Elementary
High School

Please personally submit the ff:
Letter of Application
2x2 picture
Resumé
Transcript of Records
Certificates

For School year 2004-2005,
we are actively seeking for faculty

Grade School and High School Teachers

- ☐ Preferably BSEED or BSE graduate or any related course
- ☐ Above average communication skills
- ☐ Specialization in any of the following subjects is a must:
  English, Science (Physics, Chemistry, Biology)
  Filipino, Library Science
- ☐ Preferably with PRC (LET) License

PRE SCHOOL Teachers

- ☐ College graduate with specialization in Early Childhood Education
- ☐ With pleasing personality and must not be more than 40 years old.

Qualified applicants are requested to contact the Principal at Tel. No. **9394630**.

MSA *invites you to join its highly professional teaching staff as*

Math, English and Science Teachers

Preferably graduates of UP, Ateneo, De La Salle
at least 21 years old, to work full-time

Apply at: G/F Prince David Condominium
305 Katipunan Avenue
Loyola Heights, Quezon City

Call: 435-6062
or 435-6063

A LEADING COMPANY DEALING WITH ELITE FRAGRANCES & COSMETIC BRANDS IS SEEKING SUITABLE CANDIDATE TO EXPAND ITS MARKETING TEAM

Brand Manager (ref : BM/03/04)

Reporting to the General Manager, you will be responsible for the full spectrum of sales and marketing functions. The ideal candidate will take the challenge of establishing marketing objectives, formulating and implementing effective marketing plans and strategies for the organization. Your goal is to expand the current market share and establish wider customer base.

Requirements:
- Degree in Marketing or Business studies from a recognized institution.
- At least 3 years of relevant working experience in reputable MNC / FMCG company.
- Excellent written & oral communication skills.
- Computer literate with proficiency in MS applications.
- A self-starter with initiative, drive, enthusiasm and a hands-on attitude.
- Good presentation skills, excellent interpersonal and communication abilities are also critical to the success of this role.

An attractive remuneration package commensurate with experience and ability will be offered to the successful candidate. Please write in with a detailed resume indicating current and expected salary and contact nos. not later than 21st March, 2004 mentioning the ref. number :-

The Advertiser
P.O. Box MN-2052
C/O PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER-CLASSIFIEDS
Groundfloor, PDI Bldg. Chino Roces Ave.
Corner Yague and Mascardo Streets
Makati City

OR email : rebecca@prestige.com.ph

Only shortlisted candidates will be notified.

WANTED

(1) CHIEF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT OFFICER

Item No. ILSB-CLEO-1-1998
Salary Grade: 24
Basic Salary: P20,832.00 plus P1,000.00 monthly allowance

Minimum Qualification / Requirements:
- Civil Service Eligible (Professional)
- Master's Degree preferably in Economics, Sociology, Business / Public Administration, Journalism, Mass / Development Communication, Statistics, and other related courses
- Four (4) years in a position involving management and supervision
- Four (4) years experience in conducting social development researches
- 24 hours of training in management and supervision

Qualified parties may personally apply or send their comprehensive resumé to:

The Executive Director
INSTITUTE FOR LABOR STUDIES
5th Floor, Department of Labor and Employment Building
General Luna Street, Intramuros, Manila
Fax No. 527-34-91

Suarez & Sons, Inc.
Engraving - Stamping

is in immediate need of

SALES REPRESENTATIVE

- 18-25 years old, Male/Female
- College Graduate/College Level
- With or without experience
- Self-motivated, ambitious, hardworkinig, career oriented & aggressive
- Articulate and results-oriented
- Excellent in oral and written communication skills
- Honest and with good moral character
- With pleasing personality and willing to travel

COMPUTER ARTIST

- Knowledge in Corel Draw or CAD
- Must be good in Lay-out
- Must be Creative & Artistic

Please bring your resumé with latest 2x2 picture to:
282 E. Rodriguez Sr. Avenue, Quezon City
(Bet. D. Tuazon and Cordillera St.)

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING:

Accounting Consultant
Strong background in Accounting and Finance
Experience in Budget and Forecast, financial analysis, business planning and development, management report

Senior IT Manager
Experience with PC Installation, maintenance and configuration
Familiar with network concepts and hardware
Solid understanding of IT Security Principles

Send your resumé: **JCL International Inc.**
3/F SJG Center
8463 Kalayaan Avenue, Poblacion
Makati City

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3 Months Only!

- One of the fastest growing careers in the US, UK and Canada!
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31-A Love St. St. Joseph Subd
Las Piñas (bet. ATC & Southmall)
TESDA Reg No. TR0213032018

Young, dynamic, aspiring with interest in leading-edge technologies ...
We invite you to be part of our development team as:

Design Engineer_Embedded & PCB

Qualifications:
- Degree holder in Electronics / Computer Engineering.
- Must be knowledgeable in Assembly or C Language programming / debugging / using IDE's and emulators for embedded design applications and circuits.
- Thorough experience with PIC microcontrollers firmware development and programming.
- Well versed in the use of Orcad / Cadence EDA, Schematic capture / editing.
- Must have hands-on experience in circuit breadboarding / troubleshooting and prototyping.
- Proficient with PCB design using Orcad / Cadence PCB Layout tools.
- Can work with minimum supervision and extended hours.
- Good oral and written communication skills.
- Male or female not over 25 years old.

Design Engineer_ASIC

Qualifications:
- Degree holder in Electronics / Computer Engineering.
- Thorough experience with digital, analog and mixed-signal circuit design and analysis.
- Knowledgeable with behavioral RTL design entry in Verilog HDL, VHDL.
- Thorough and hands-on experience with Altera APEX / Stratix / Cyclone or Xilinx Virtex / Spartan FPGA's for rapid digital prototyping and verification.
- Proficient with EDA synthesis and simulation tools, i.e. Quartus II, SOPC Builder, Leonardo / PrecisionRTL, ModelSim, SILOS, TSPice, Cadence PSpice
- Can work with minimum supervision and extended hours.
- Good oral and written communication skills.
- Male or Female not over 25 years old

Mechanical Design Engineer_CAD

Qualifications:
- Degree holder in Mechanical/Industrial Engineering.
- Thorough experience with AutoCAD and SolidWorks.
- Experienced in the design and development of plastic enclosures or casings for portable electronic products or similar equipment.
- Knowledgeable with moulding characteristics of various plastic material and their effects on yield, warpage, shrinkage and other properties.
- Knowledgeable with other engineering materials and related hardware also used for electronic product enclosures and casings.
- Can work with minimum supervision and extended hours.
- Good oral and written communication skills.
- Male or Female not over 28 years old.

Applications Programmer

Qualifications:
- Degree holder in Computer Science, Engineering or Information Technology.
- Experienced in designing MS Access Enterprise Applications for MSWindows-based platform and using Visual Studio for programming and debugging.
- Experience in writing peripheral drivers or applications in C or C++ would be an advantage and may be given preference.
- Can work with minimum supervision and extended hours.
- Good oral and written communication skills.
- Male or Female not over 25 years old.

NOTE:
1. Interested applicants must submit a copy of their latest resumé via e-mail to the address below.
2. Applicants must be willing to work, re-locate or travel to Parañaque City.
3. Possible work-related overseas assignment or travel.
4. IMPORTANT: Indicate desired position (as written above) on the subject line for proper routing.

e-mail: hrd@golfelec.com

REEDLEY INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
(A Singapore - American School)
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STUDENT SERVICES HEAD (Male or Female)
- Min. 3 years as Guidance Counselor or Perfect of Discipline
- AB/BS Psychology or Pre-Law Graduate

GRADE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS (Licensed)
- Math (all levels), Chemistry, Biology & Physics
- English, Social Studies, I.T., Music, PE, and Mandarin
- Masteral Candidates in Education or Related field
- Min. 3 years of teaching in big local or International schools

ACADEMIC CONSULTANTS (Part Time)
- Teachers of Basic Math, Reading, ESL, & Gen. Science

HUMAN RESOURCE ASSISTANTS (Female)
- Experienced in Recruitment, Training & Labor Laws

Contract Signing on March 5, 2004 (Friday)

We offer Salaries (above industry practice)
+ Summer Pay + Training Allowance
+ Other Benefits

Submit Complete Bio-Data to: Ms. Mona R. Austria
Reedley International School
Pasig Blvd. cor. Rosemarie Lane, Pasig City

IMMEDIATE HIRING

ACCOUNTING SUPERVISOR
- With 2-3 years experience in accounting
- Knowledge in accounting principles, practices & financial reporting
- Experience in taxation
- Must possess excellent English, Communication skills
- The ability to administer/supervise still will be an advantage

OPERATIONS MANAGER
- Candidate must have 2-3 years experience in managing an operation department. You will be responsible for managing the customer service, admin. and marketing support involving activities which attribute of the acquisition, satisfaction and retention of customer.

Pls. bring your resumé personally
and 2x2 photo at the address below:

IGEN-PORTAL INT'L. CORP.
G/F Centerpoint Bldg., Doña Julia Vargas Ave.
cor. Garnett Rd., Ortigas Center, Pasig City
Tel. Nos. 6830400/6830401

CYPRESS

CYPRESS Manufacturing Ltd., Philippine Branch

A diversified, broadline supplier with a communications focus. Cypress has created some of the world's leading semiconductor products that support key communications businesses.

Cypress has aligned its organization along four market-focused segments:

- Wireless Terminals
- Wireless Infrastructure
- Wide Area Networks
- Storage Networks

The segment organizations are dedicated to providing a broad portfolio of high-performance solutions at the most competitive cost. Cypress' introduction of new products continues at a record pace to serve the accelerating demand for integrated communications solutions. Cypress Semiconductor is a global supplier of high-performance integrated circuits. Our global headquarter is located at San Jose California. Our strategic customer-leaders in the data communications, networking, telecommunications, and personal computer markets.

At Cypress, we strive to surpass current standards in the world's most competitive high tech arena. We take career growth of our people seriously. We provide training incentive in all levels. We reward success and hard work with competitive salary, tuition refund, employee bonuses, and a flexible benefits package.

At Cypress,winning is our business and we only hire the best.

PRODUCT ENGINEERS (Code: NCGPE)

- Responsible for new product releases.
- Will do sustaining functions and yield improvements.
- Performs qualifications (QTP) related to product assigned, test time reduction and device characterization, flow simplification and entitlements.
- Maintains and develops Cost Reduction, Test Programs, and Quality Improvement.
- Candidates must be graduates of Engineering preferably ECE, CoE and EE. Proficient on PC-based applications, preferably with strong background in C-language programming. Possesses excellent communication, mathematical and analytical skills. Data communications experience preferred. Product Engineering background is an advantage.

EQUIPMENT ENGINEERS - TEST/FINISH (Code: TFEE1)

- Responsible for set up of qualification of new equipment, equipment upgrade and modification to improve equipment performance, machine troubleshooting, and maintenance of production equipment.
- SupervisesTechnicians assigned on shift.
- Candidates must be graduates of Engineering preferably BS ECE, EE or IT. With minimum of five (5) years work experience in the Semiconductor Industry as a Field Service Engineer from Equipment Supplier or Test EOL Equipment. With extensive experience in maintenance of lasermark machine leadscan and TNR Machine. Must have a working knowledge on the application of Statistical Problem Solving or Total Productivity Management. Possesses excellent communication skills. Proficient computer skills and is able to liaise with all levels of the organization.

PROCESS ENGINEERS - TEST/FINISH (Code: TFPE2)

- Performs line sustaining on elevated issues to address Productivity, Quality & FPY-FNY Performance.
- Spearheads investigation and resolution of process related problems through RCCA/8D methodology.
- Implements pilot improvement activities and introduction of new internal processes.
- Develops equipment, material, and process qualification procedures.
- Performs manufacturability assessment of new products prior release to production in coordination with QA, Product, Equipment Engineering and manufacturing Group.
- Spearheads engineering projects for productivity, yield improvement, cost reduction and process simplification.
- Candidate must be Engineering graduates preferably ECE, EE or IT. Must have strong working knowledge on basic mechatronics principles. Must have the ability to lead a cross-functional team to achieve common goal. Active with continous improvement teams - SPC & TPM. Possesses excellent communication, coordination and problem solving skills. Computer literate (Excel, Word, Powerpoint).

MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN TEST/FINISH (Code: TFMT3)

- Performs equipment set-up/conversion and troubleshooting.
- Implements continous equipment improvement to attain Over-all Equipment Efficiency (OEE).
- Candidate must be a graduate of a three (3) year technical course or degree course in Electronics, Computer & or Electromechanical, ECE, EE or ME. With at least one (1) year relative experience in the semiconductor industry, preferably in line sustaining function. With experience in maintenance of Finish Equipment such as MV851, ST495, Markem 1455 and RVSI. Knowlegdeable in Basic troubleshooting techniques, basic electronics and mechanical theory and applications and electro-mechanics. Willing to work on shifts and long hours, computer literate (MS Applications, word, excel, powerpoint).

PROCESS TECHNICIAN TEST/FINISH (Code: TFPT4)

- Performs line sustaining function, and process failure analysis in yield and quality failures.
- Drive process improvement and simplification projects in order to optimize manufacturing processes.
- Candidates must be a graduate of any related three (3) year technical course or five (5) year engineering course. With 3-5 years experience in Finish Operations preferably in the semiconductor industry. With excellent communication skills, and computer literate (MS Applications word, excel & powerpoint).

MANUFACTURING SUPERVISOR (Code: MFGSUP1)

- Provides guidance to coordinates to achieve goals in accordance with established policies.
- Candidates must have at least 5-8 years experience working in a Semiconductor Manufacturing Company or any Related Industry., 5 years of which is in a Supervisory level. Must be graduates of Engineering, degree in Chemical, Mechanical, Computer/Telecommunication Metal Fabrication/Tool & Die/Welding, Electrical/Electronic or equivalent. With excellent knowledge and strong hands on experience in TPM/SPC/FMEA Methodology and 7 QC Tools.

SUBCON PLANNER (Code:SPIE)

- Responsible for maintaining I2 data for test, finish and burn-in.
- Resolves factory capacity constraints.
- Forecasts loading for burn-in, test, finish, tape and reel. Analyzes data to provide recommendation for improvements.
- Candidate must be graduates of Engineering degree in Industrial or its equivalent. Must have at least two (2) years experience in Planning, with one (1) year in Test area, preferably in the Semiconductor industry. Excellent analytical and communication skills. Experience in Forecast & Subcon Planning, an advantage. Aggressive, assertive and keen with details.

TECHNICAL SUPPORT ENGINEERS - GLOBAL HELP DESK (Code: TSEGHD1)

- Provides technical support to customers.
- Candidates must be a graduate of Engineering, degree in Computer/Telecommunication, or B.S. Mathematics, Computer Science/Information Technology or equivalent. With at least 1 year of work experience as Technical Support Engineer or similar capacity from a customer service company, specializing in IT/Computer-Network /System/Database Admin. Must have working knowledge of application development tools (C++, UNIX, MS SQL). With excellent oral and written communication skills, analytical ability. Able to probe problems based on symptoms. Able to adapt to shifting schedules and on-call basis.

PROGRAMMER/ANALYST (Code: ITGPRA)

- Revises a web-based program that uses ASP as a programming tool and ORACLE as database.
- Revises data-migration program that uses JAVA as a programming tool and ORACLE as database.
- Creates reports using ORACLE, PL/SQL.
- With at least 1 year experience in ASP Programming, ORACLE, JAVA and SQL Programming. Candidates must be a graduate of Computer Science/Information Technology, ECE, CoE, B.S. Mathematics or equivalent. With excellent oral and written communication skills, analytical ability. Able to probe problems based on symptoms. Able to adapt to shifting schedules and on-call basis.

PRODUCTION OPERATOR-TECHNICIANS (Code: OPTECH01)

- Reporting to the Production Supervisor, responsible for Machine and Equipment operations.
- Candidates must be graduates of a three (3) year technical course or an Engineering degree, preferably Electronics, Electro-Mechanical, BS EE or ME. At least 5'2" in height, not more than 26 years old. With at least one (1) year full time Semiconductor or related industry experience; handling operation, troubleshooting and maintenance of FOL/EOL equipment.

HUMAN RESOURCES FOR RESULTS MANAGERS (Code: HRRMGR)

- Reporting to the Human Resources for Results Director, responsible for implementing and sustaining all Human Resources related plans and projects.
- Responsible for Managing Human Resources functions such as Compensation and Benefits, Employee & Labor Relations, Organizational Development & Training, and Manpower Planning & Strategic Staffing.
- With at least 10 years of experience in a managerial capacity in a Semiconductor Industry or Customer Service Industry preferred. Not more than 40 years old. Candidate must possess a Bachelor's Degree preferably Behavioral Science, Accountancy or Industrial Engineering, Master's Degree a plus. Preferred competencies in HRR Compensation & Benefits, Employee Relations, Labor Relations, Training and Staffing, Business Partnering and Account Management. Must have excellent People skills, Project Management, Problem Solving and Strategic Planning skills. With excellent communication and interpersonal relation skills. Computer Literate, with strong knowledge of Electronic HR System or related tools, preferably HRIS and Peoplesoft.

HRR SENIOR TRAINERS (Code: HRRTRN)

- Responsible for the conduct, design and implementation of TNA,Training programs & modules for technical,behavioural, leadership.
- Familiar with different HR/OD/Technical interventions.
- Responsible for implementing Succession planning and Career Development programs.
- With at least 5 years as Technical Trainer in a Supervisory Capacity preferably with at least 5 years working in a Semiconductor Industry or any related industry preferred. Candidate must possess excellent communication and interpersonal relation skills. Must have good classroom management and presentation skills. With good grasp of both Technical and Behavioral Training. Highly organized with very good planning skills. Must possess a Bachelor's Degree preferrably in Behavioral Science, Psychology or Human Resources Management, with Technical Background, or Industrial Engineering course will be an edge.

PEOPLESOFT AND COMPENSATION & BENEFITS ADMINISTRATOR (Code: HRRPSCB)

- Responsible for administration of Compensation and Benefits programs.
- Maintenance and automation of 201 Files.
- Salary review, performance management, managing of Peoplesoft and HRIS.
- With at least 5 years of experience as a Compensation Specialist preferably in a Semiconductor company or any related industry. Has experience in handling HRIS and PeopleSoft. Candidate must possess a Bachelor's Degree in Behavioral Science, Industrial Engineering, Psychology or any related course. With excellent communication and interpersonal relation skills. With keen attention to details.

Candidates must be willing to work in Cavite

Interested applicants are requested to submit their resumés (in word format) to:

vju@cypress.com

or mail us at

Cypress Manufacturing Ltd., Philippine Branch
Gateway Business Park, Special Export Processing Zone
Brgy. Javalera, General Trias Cavite, Philippines 4107
Manila Tel. No. (632) 812.8161
Cavite Tel. No. (6346) 433-0164

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TRIPMART TRAVEL

RUSH!

RESERVATION AGENT
FOR U.S. BASED TRAVEL AGENCY

- Must be proficient with Amadeus and Worldspan Reservation System
- Must possess knowledge in selling the U.S. & Philippines as a tourist destination
- Must be proficient with FIT Wholesaler reservation and ticketing
- Must be proficient in English & Tagalog, tourism graduate preferred.

Salary is good and the opportunity to be transferred to the U.S. office is possible.

Please send your resumé **ASAP to** resume@mangotours.com or inquiries@trip-mart.com

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ENGLISH TEACHERS

FOR ASSIGNMENT TO VARIOUS

GLOBALLY RECOGNIZED UNIVERSITIES

- university graduate, qualified to teach English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or equivalent
- minimum 3 years teaching experience in reputable school (preferably in multicultural EFL/ESL teaching environment)
- excellent spoken and written English skills with near native fluency and no major accent problems
- preferably Caucasian looking candidates

HIGH COMPETITIVE COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS PACKAGE WITH OPPORTUNITIES TO TRAVEL ABROAD

Interested candidates should send their comprehensive resumé with one recent clear photo and detailed job description to:

QC 2004-003 c/o Philippine Daily Inquirer
G/F St. Anthony's Bldg. 891 Aurora Boulevard
cor. Oxford St., Cubao, Quezon City 1109

not later than March 22, 2004.

Only qualified candidates will be notified for interview.

LEXBER GROUP OF COMPANIES

A developer of Leisure Vacation Homes in the Country's Summer Capital, **BAGUIO CITY**, where real property values continue to rise, is currently in search of **DYNAMIC** and **HIGHLY MOTIVATED** individuals to be part of the Lexber Sales force as:

MARKETING MANAGER

- Must have expertise in real estate marketing & sales
- Must have previous experience in managing & training real estate brokers and real estate marketing & sales people
- Must be willing to continuously recruit and train real estate brokers & sales people
- Must have existing business networks and contracts
- Must be willing to travel
- Must possess good oral and written communication skills
- Must have pleasing personality

SALES MANAGERS and SALES ASSOCIATES

- Must have previous experience in the field of real estate sales and marketing
- Must have existing business networks and contacts
- Must be willing to travel
- Must possess good oral and written communication skills
- Must have pleasing personality

Interested applicants are welcome to apply and submit their resumé at:

LEXBER, INC.
#63 Panay Avenue, Quezon City
in front of St. Mary's College

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

Are you:

- A recent graduate interested in wealth creation
- An employee with a fixed income wanting to maximize your earning capacity
- A homemaker with growing children, eager to spread your wings without neglecting the family
- A mother interested in developing your child's IQ & EQ
- In between JOBS, looking to earn good money without going abroad and leaving your family

TALK to us. We offer:

- An opportunity to earn as much as P50,000/mo. with a minimum capital of P1,000.00.
- Intensive FREE Training hear and ABROAD.

Bring your Bio-data with ID picture, Mon-Wed 9am -6pm to:

504 Galleria Corp. Ctr.
Robinsons Galleria
EDSA cor. Ortigas

20/F Citibank Center
8741 Paseo de Roxas
Makati City

1116 Quezon Ave.
Brgy. Paligsahan
Quezon City

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mario's kitchen

We are looking for Young, Vibrant and Goal-Driven Individuals to fill-in the following positions:

RESTAURANT / ASST. REST MANAGERS

Male / female, computer lit. HRM, Food Tech., or Business Mgmt graduate. 3yrs work experience in a reputable restaurant or hotel. W/ knowledge in menu planning, food prod. & costing. W/ entrepreneurial, great marketing & communication skills.

ACCOUNTANTS / BOOKKEEPER

Male/ female, below 30yrs old, Accounting graduate, w/ 2 yrs work experience. Well versed in accounting procedures. Analytical and knows Accounting Software. CPA is an advantage.

COOKS / DINING STAFFS

Male/ female, below 30yrs old, college grad/level or had undergone basic cooking courses (for cooks) w/ 1-yr exp. in a fine dining restaurant.

Qualified applicants may send letter of application / comprehensive resumé with ID photo & other credentials to HRD #608 Calderon St cor. Shaw Blvd., Mandaluyong City

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A Hong Kong computer hardware manufacturer is establishing its Philippine presence and is seeking qualified individuals eager to work in a start-up environment. We are currently looking for the following.

Software Developers

Responsible for preparation of software development kits, and development of basic applications using smart card technology

- Graduate of Computer Science, Computer Engineering or any other computer related courses
- 1-2 years relevant experience using a variety of programming languages
- Experience in a small to medium scale local solution house or system integrator highly valued
- Experience in Linux, Unix, and other non-Windows platforms a plus
- Able to do system design and implementation

Testing and Documentation Engineers

Responsible for system and device testing on a variety of devices and platforms. Will also formulate and write testing procedures, user manuals, and other related documentation

- Graduate of Computer Science, Computer Engineering or any other computer related courses
- 1-2 years relevant experience in a related job function

Sales and Marketing Engineers

Responsible for finding potential projects and customers for IT solutions to be implemented locally. Will also need to support existing international market by communicating with overseas customers throughout the sales process. Minor tasks include preparing sales and presentation materials, and improving existing documentation

Applicants must

- Have an Engineering or any IT-related degree
- Sales experience with a local solution house or system integrator in the sale of solutions
- Have planning skills and be a team player
- Be highly aggressive and proactive
- Have excellent written and oral English
- Good presentation skills
- Have a proven ability to follow-up and close on a sale

Interested parties may call 0385732 or email their resumés to monina.manibo@acs.com.hk

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PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER JOB MARKET

Your career might only be a click of the mouse away.

Now on-line at
www.inquirer.net

How do you survive in a bureaucracy?

DEAR WW: I've always worked for big companies, but these days I've got to fill out a form in triplicate each time I want to go to the bathroom. How do they expect us to get any work done when they're wasting our time and treating us like children?

Freedom Fighter

WORKING WOUNDED

Bob Rosner

At the pub in Wisborough Green, England racing fans have long gathered 'round the telly to watch and handicap the car races. One day someone said, "Why just watch the races? Why not be IN the races?" And then someone pointed out that they all had lawnmowers and the British Lawn Mower Racing Association was born. Today Turfinator, Geronimow, Weedy Gonzales, and others duke it out in 12 races culminating in a 12-hour mower Le Mans. True to their egalitarian roots, they give every racer points just for showing up.

Just as those blokes created a great race from their available tools, you can find ways to speed through the obstacles erected by any bureaucracy. Try out the strategies below. For more, check out Jeff Bellman's book, "The Beauty of the Beast" (Berrett Koehler, 2000).

Whose palm can you grease? Now, I'm not talking graft here; I'm just talking about letting people know you appreciate their efforts. An effusive thank you, an appreciative note, a crucial piece of information, a small box of candy: try offering these to the woman in accounting who manages purchase orders and the person who manages your bosses calendar, and you may find that the wheels of business start turning a little bit faster.

What secrets can you share? In bureaucracies information is power—and everyone likes to hoard power.

Trouble is, all that information hoarding makes for slow, inefficient operation. See if you can lubricate the information flow by deliberately sharing information with others. You're apt to find that the more "secrets" you spill to others, the more you get in return—making everybody's job easier.

What strategic questions can you ask? It's tough to question a bureaucracy. Questions threaten all those rigid, paper-pushing regs they stand on. But a carefully aimed question or two—with a solid business rationale behind it—is sometimes all it takes to extirpate a particularly irksome regulation. Pick one that really drives you crazy (and that's not a sacred cow), and build a case that shows how eliminating or changing that regulation will strengthen the company's bottom line. After your first success (or failure) wait a few months, then go after another one.

Is there life outside the bureaucracy? Whether it's telecommuting, working for a smaller organization or hanging up your own shingle, there's more than one way to pay the bills. I don't think there's a pension or a parachute worth hating 40+ hours of every week for. Always know your options.

These tips may not turn your life in the bureaucracy into a bed of roses, but at least they'll help you start mowing down the obstacles.

(Mr. Rosner is based in Seattle, Washington, USA. E-mail him at bob@working wounded.com.)

> A carefully aimed question or two—with a solid business rationale behind it—is sometimes all it takes to extirpate a particularly irksome regulation.

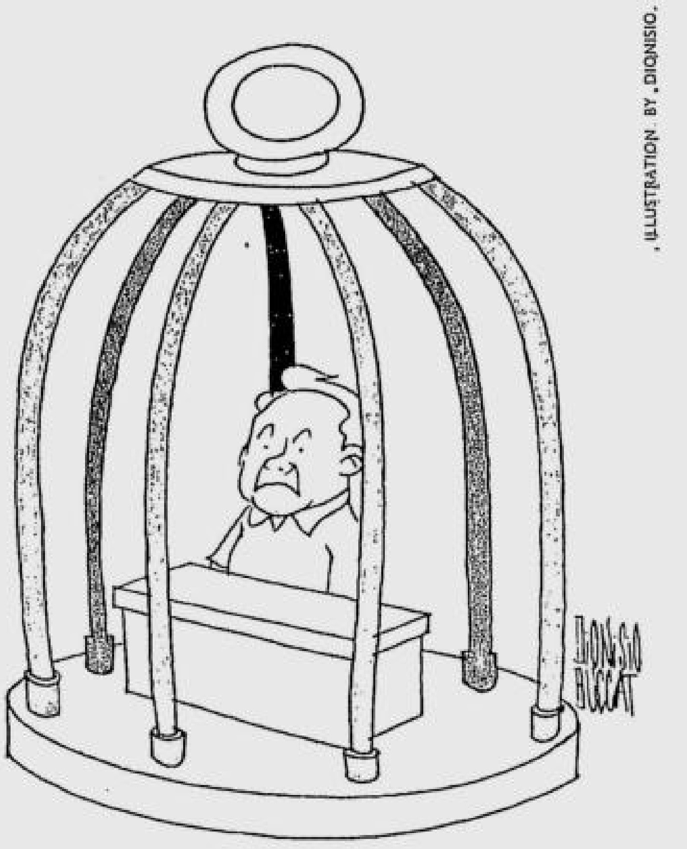

ILLUSTRATION BY DIONISIO BUCCAT

Philamlife brings int'l speaker to Manila

PHILAMLIFE, the largest and most diversified life and general insurance company in the Philippines, will be holding a forum on "Service Excellence" featuring internationally acclaimed innovator and motivator Ron Kaufman on March 17, 2004 at the EDSA Shangri-la Hotel.

Ron Kaufman is one of the most dynamic and entertaining speakers to enter the service training industry. He has earned a worldwide reputation for innovation, excitement and results in his public speaking and numerous in house training programs. Kaufman is a pioneer of high-impact and high-involvement educational programs, including history-making events on the great Wall of China, on the Capital Mall in Washington DC, and at St.Basil's Cathedral in Moscow's Red Square. His unique approaches to learning and leadership have been covered by Life Magazine, The New York Times, AP, UPI, Reuters and NBC-TV.

With more than 20 years of training, speaking and conference in ninety-two countries, Ron Kaufman has worked with hundreds of clients including government agencies and multi-national corporations in the fields of financial services, medical services, manufacturing, retailing, hospitality, high technology, entertainment, transportation and public recreation.

Ron Kaufman is an internationally acclaimed innovator and motivator for partnerships and quality service. He's also the author of the "Best of Active Learning!" newsletter and the popular "UP Your Service!" series of books, articles and training programs.

The forum is one of the highlights of Philamlife's National Recognition Program for its top agents and leaders slated on March 17-19, 2004.

Provincial grads ...

From page I-13

vest in it. That's very important nowadays. Have you highlighted your special interests and activities to reflect your achievements? Is your information positive? Have you checked the spelling and grammar? Have you eliminated irrelevant material? Is your resume neat, tidy, and concise? Is it attractive? Is it two pages at the maximum? One page is preferred. Is your covering letter prepared? Is your reference sheet updated? If you have all these, then most likely you can be hired!"

In preparing for the interview, Rebustillo said one must always make it a habit to collect basic information.

"Look good and feel good during the interview. Prepare all needed documents. Always review your resume, then practice," he advised. "There's always the saying that practice makes perfect, so continue to project yourself in front of an interviewee. But most of all, always remember that employment is a grace from God."

Rebustillo noted that graduating students now have an opportunity to attend various job fairs and find job markets in publications like newspapers.

"Those who read newspapers have an edge in some ways in finding a job. In job searching, make it a habit to check the classified sections of your newspapers. Read newspapers, especially the Business section. Who knows those big breaks await you by reading the newspapers."

To his surprise, most SL Technology students read the Inquirer's Job Market section.

DKT Philippines, Inc., a non-government, non-profit and non-stock organization involved in the distribution of contraceptive products is in need of the following individuals for Visayas and North Luzon:

Social Marketing Representatives

- A dedicated self-starter, aggressive and highly motivated individual.
- Previous experience in a sales organization with consumer products and possesses the necessary presentation skills with the ability and aptitude to learn and understand information of medical science in nature.
- Must know how to drive and possesses a valid driver's license.
- Graduate of any four or five year degree courses.
- Must have a strong interpersonal communication skills
- Must know how to drive and possesses a valid driver's license.
- Ability to speaking any of the following dialect is preferred: Pangalatok, Ilocano, Ibanag, Hiligaynon and/or Bisaya.

Regional Sales Manager for Visayas

Responsible for the overall supervision of sales personnel in his area of responsibility. The focus is on the sales function (setting targets, training staff, monitoring and increasing sales performance) implementation and monitoring of product A & P campaigns, managing distributor/partner relationships, monitoring sales revenues and collection, and reporting.

- At least 2 to 3 years supervisory experience in sales (consumer/pharmaceutical products)
- Proven track record of high achievement.
- Solid marketing background.
- Exceptional interpersonal communication skills.
- Computer literate (spreadsheets and word processing)
- Ability to conceptualize and implement A & P activities at the field level in the region.
- Familiarity with the region.
- A team player is a must.

Applicants can look forward to an industry competitive package. Interested applicants may send their comprehensive resumé thru mail or e-mail to:

Attention: HRD
E-mail: hrd@frenzy.com.ph
Suite 801, The Linden Suites
No. 37 San Miguel Avenue
Ortigas Center, Pasig City

FitchRatings

PHILIPPINE REPRESENTATIVE

Manila, Philippines

Fitch Ratings, the international rating agency, has 50 offices worldwide and a rating presence in more than 80 countries. Due to a vacancy, the company is seeking a Philippine Representative to join in Manila, Philippines. This role will be focused on liaising with government agencies, media, banks and corporations to promote Fitch Ratings key business groups.

Excellent networking, interpersonal and time-management skills are essential, as is experience in relationship management with government agencies, banks and corporates. At least 8-10 years experience and advanced degree qualifications is necessary.

Key responsibilities will be:
- Working with the Fitch Singapore office
- Liaising with external users of Fitch Ratings
- Promoting Fitch Ratings with potential users and the media

Please apply at fitchresrep@yahoo.com or send fax to +65 6336-6802 with covering letter, detailed curriculum vitae providing current salary details, photograph and resident status, if applicable. Closing date 8th March 2004. Only short-listed applicants will be notified.

Visit Fitch Ratings websites: www.fitchratingsasia.com & www.fitchratings.com

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PROJECT MANAGER

SINCLAIR KNIGHT MERZ is a leading professional services consulting firm operating in the buildings, energy, environment, infrastructure, industrial, minerals, advisory and spatial markets across the globe. To realise our growth aims, we are seeking a Project Manager

☐ 5-7 years Project Management experience
☐ Would need to be a self starter and able to manage program for work with authority
☐ Consultant and client stakeholder management skill for small projects up to US$1.5M
☐ Able to interact with all levels of management with an eye for details. Good communication, reporting and interpersonal skills
☐ Contract construction experience needed

We will offer an excellent salary package to the preferred applicant.

Send resumé/application as soon as possible to:

Heinz Agatep
Sinclair Knight Merz (Philippines) Inc
35/F The Orient Square Building
Emerald Avenue, Ortigas Centre, Pasig City
e-mail: hagatep@skmconsulting.com.ph

JOIN
JOB Market
Text Quiz

...and get a chance to WIN gift certificates from David's Salon.

TO JOIN:

First time participants must have to register by answering the question following this format:

TQ JOIN *<game code><question number><letter of answer> complete name/complete address/sex(M or F)/ age*

Ex: TQ JOIN A1a Rowie A. Balza/143 Empire St. San Lorenzo Village, Makati City/F/22

send to 2966 (Globe and Touch Mobile) or 3996 (Smart and Talk N Text).

After the registration, you may answer the remaining questions using this format:

TQ *<game code><question number><letter of answer*

Ex: TQ A1c

send to 2966 (Globe and Touch Mobile) or 3996 (Smart and Talk N Text)

Game code: D

1. Success... Make it happen... who is the leader in International Recruitment?
   - a. Ultimate Care, Inc.
   - b. NGO, Inc.
   - c. Coca-Cola
   - d. Employment Plus

2. CLARK DEVELOPMENT CORP. (CDC) is in need of a Legal Officer and ______.
   - a. Legal Assistant
   - b. Sr. Legal Officer
   - c. Accountant
   - d. Marketing Head

3. What is the email address of LEGEND INTERNATIONAL RESORTS LIMITED?
   - a. recruitment@legendanet.com
   - b. legend@hrd.com
   - c. hrd@legendanet.com
   - d. employ@legend.com

4. VISION-X applicants may contact Armando Castro through 889-2200 loc. ___?
   - a. 1010
   - b. 205
   - c. 528
   - d. 7001

5. UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND, send your applications to P.O. Box ____, DAPO.
   - a. 1402
   - b. 9876
   - c. 7285
   - d. 2401

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 3401 Series of 2003

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(Principal's Accreditation Cert. No. 25361-3)

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MASTERS (US$ 5,000.00/MONTH)

PLUS:
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(SALARY: US$2,500.00 PER MONTH)

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- With at least five (5) years minimum shipboard experience as a senior officer (Management Level) onboard worldwide-route vessels (preferably tankers)

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536-37-06 / 523-55-60 / 526-49-95
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- With Sales managerial background for at least 3 to 5 years in any industry.
- Engineering graduate preferred but not required.
- Fluent in oral and written English communications.
- Male or female, age between 30 to 40 preferred but not necessary.

Sales Executives

(5 TO 7 required)

- With Sales experience for at least 2 to 3 years in any industry.
- Engineering graduate preferred but not required.
- Fluent in oral and written communications.
- Male or female, age between 25 to 35 preferred but not necessary

Compensation:

As a company standard, we offer an above industry compensation package that is negotiable upon confirmation of employment. Upon sending your resumé, kindly indicate your desired compensation requirements subject to management review.

Resume:

All applicants must submit a comprehensive educational and work experience resumé with specific job descriptions and assignments indicated and dates of their employment history. Email all applications to the General Manager at either addresses on or before March 15.

- unity@pworld.net.ph
- jcamacho@pacific.net.ph

UNIBAG
UNITED BAG MANUFACTURING CORPORATION

Production Supervisor

- Male, below 30 yrs old, preferably an Engineering graduate
- Good leadership skills. 5 yrs supervisory exp & willing to work 12-hr shifts
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- Female Graduate of a reputable university
- Min 3 years secretarial or administrative experience, preferably in sales
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Send complete résumé w/ latest 2 x 2 photo
to P.O. Box 4137 Manila (Attn: Finance & Admin. Manager)

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(with current experience in Math and Science)

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OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS

Radiologic Technologists
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Licensed PHYSICAL THERAPISTS

to attend the scheduled orientation, interviews and screening tests on the following dates and venues:

DAVAO CITY
March 15 and 16, 2004
from 8 a.m to 6 p.m
The APO VIEW HOTEL
Contact No.: 0916-8216568 look for Rachel

MANILA
> March 18,19, 22 to 26 and 29 to 31, 2004
from 9 A.M. to 6 P.M
Room 2604 Antel Global Corporate Center City
City Julia Vargas Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig City
Contact Nos.: 687-9074/687-9073/687-2657 & 687-2658
E-mail Add : *amehanph@info.com.ph*

CEBU
April 1 to 9, 2004
from 9 A.M. to 6 P.M
9-2 Escario St. cor. Tojong St., Cebu
Contact Nos.: 231-8890 to 91
E-mail Add : *amehan@info.com.ph*

Bring a comprehensive and updated resume with 2 pcs. 2x2 pictures attached on it/ copy of college diploma. Transcript of records, related learning experience, exam certificates or any related, birth and marriage certificates and copy of passport.

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WORK SAMPLES & FULL-COLOR 2"x 2" PHOTO TO
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A waste management company is looking for a...

Sales & Marketing Manager

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- Ability to conceptualize, plan & implement marketing programs
- Must have working experience in a Health Care Facility, Hospital, Pharmaceutical or Environmental company

Sales Field Engineer

- Preferably a graduate of environmental engineering but not necessary.

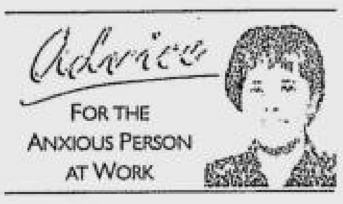
All of the above applicants must possess the ff: qualities:
- Strong presentation & communication skills.
- Willing to accept provincial assignments.
- Honest & a team player

Interested applicants may send their resumé, 2x2 picture and other credentials to:

Unit 510, ALPAP II Bldg., Trade St., cor. Investment Dr., Madrigal Business Park, Muntinlupa City.
Or you may fax it to (02) 842-5174 or e-mail it to paenvco@paenvco.com

Can husband and wife work well together in a business?

By Tita Datu Puangco


Advice
FOR THE ANXIOUS PERSON AT WORK

A husband-wife team has a great potential for success in business but it also has a lot of room for misunderstanding and might, in extreme cases, even compromise the family ...

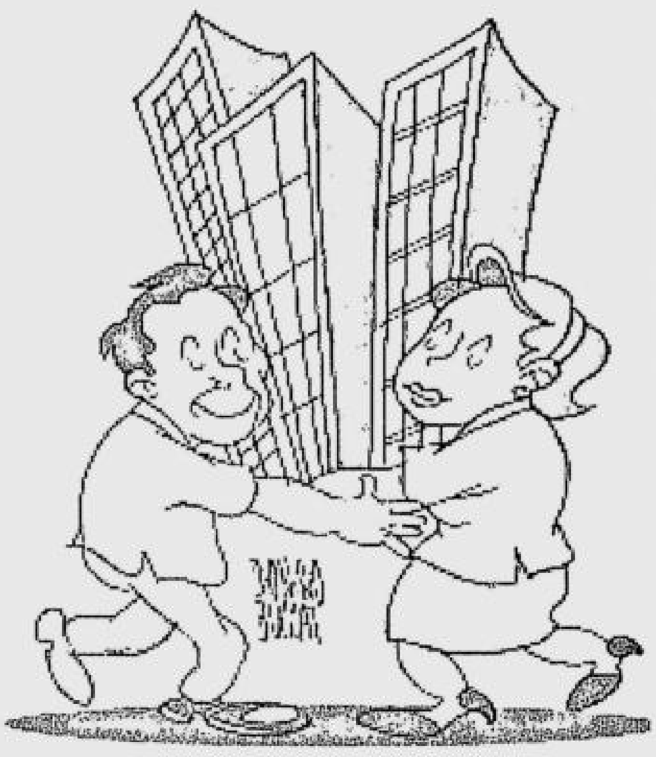


ILLUSTRATION BY DIONISIO BUCCAT

I'M in the distributorship business with my husband. I handle administration, finance and personnel, while my husband handles the sales and marketing department. We formulated policies and rules of the company to guide every employee. Often times, my husband deviates from the policies with the thinking that he owns the company.

The result: inaccurate inventory, responsibility being passed from one person to another, employees imitating the same acts of their boss. Even if I remind him to follow company policies, he backslides from time to time. I'm on the edge of quitting my work. I'm planning to put up a new business of my own. What would you advise me to do? Thank you in anticipation of your reply. More power!

Edith

Thank you for writing to me about your challenge with your family business. As an SME, your company plays an important role in our country's economy. SMEs provide employment to Filipinos and support thousands of families.

Your letter also touched me on a personal note. It reminds me somewhat of Ancilla's early days when my husband and I were starting to build the business. I took care of selling and delivering our training and consultancy services and Renato, my loving husband, joined me to take care of administration, finance and personnel. Today, looking back, I realize that we learned so much from each other even through the difficult times and notwithstanding our differing opinions.

A husband-wife team has a great potential for success in business but it also has a lot of room for misunderstanding and might, in extreme cases, even compromise the family for whom the business was set up in the first place. Thankfully, both our business and our family are intact after 12 years of working together. Here are some insights from our experience as a team that might help you along:

1. Respect each other's skills, competencies and professional opinions. Renato and I have different strengths and weakness. Professionally speaking, this works because it allows us to have a holistic perspective of the business. Respect is what lets us keep our cool. With love, we try to explain what we want to say in the other's language and patiently work out our differences in a neutral tone. Early on in our relationship, we agreed that we will never shout at each other even in anger or frustration. This creates a harmonious working relationship that makes it a joy to go to work with my husband every morning, secure in the knowledge that we will create something new and good each day.

2. It is important for administration, finance and personnel to align with sales and marketing. Conflict between the two is natural. The former is concerned with government compliance, recording and reporting of transactions, requiring accuracy, thoroughness and taking care of details. The latter is concerned with customer service. This requires speed to market, quality delivery and looking at the big picture for an account. What is important for the business is for these to align with each other. Identify what part is critical in bringing in the business and together understand how the rest of the organization's structures, processes and controls support this. We've done this several times in Ancilla's evolution. As the organization grew, so did the need for continuous improvement and greater alignment. As a husband and wife management team, we had to have such a great unity that this continuous alignment becomes a habit also among our employees.

3. Tolerance for ambiguities is a must. In a business venture, there are a lot of uncertainties. Will there be enough sales next week? Where will our competitors go next? When will my suppliers raise their prices? As entrepreneurs, my husband and I had to learn to prioritize. We do the best that we can for factors within our immediate control. We hedge for risks that can be foreseen. And we entrust the rest to the Holy Spirit.

Once we were thinking of partnering with another US training company and we were raring to do it. Confident that there was a market, knowing we had the capability to deliver their products well, we set about negotiating with them. At a certain point, though, we realized that the alliance was not going to work out and we dropped the venture. On the one hand, this could be considered a failure and a waste of time. On the other hand, it gave us enough experience in dealing with non-Filipino companies to pursue future alliances. Now, we have five international partners. The most recent alliance is with TACK International of the UK, where we are the solely accredited entity in the Philippines.

4. Have fun. Be sure to laugh a lot with each other. You have to enjoy what you are doing for it to become a success. My husband and I sometimes laugh so loud in our room at night that we used to wake our son whose room is adjacent to ours. There are some mistakes and incidents that seem so grave during the workday but end up so funny at night. We also agree to not let the sun set on our anger. Each night before sleeping, we make sure that we forgive each other if there were unintentional hurts experienced during the day.

5. Pray together. There will be differences in opinion that will not be resolved in a day. Better to solve these through prayer and with grace, you will be shown the way.

A family business is an adventure whose reward at the end is not just food for your family's table but also the privilege of journeying with your loved one through the daily grind. There is so much learning and growing that happens. In the end, even if one decides to do something else in the future, just as my husband is now managing another company, the experience has deepened our relationship in ways we never could have managed on our own.

Good luck and all our prayers go with you, whatever you decide.

(Ms Puangco is CEO and chair of Ancilla Enterprise Development Consulting. Send feedback through e-mail to advice@ancillaedc.com.ph *or fax to 892-2902.)*

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ATTRACTIVE COMPENSATION PACKAGE AWAITS SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS. INTERESTED APPLICANTS MUST BE BASED IN CALABARZON AND/OR WILLING TO RELOCATE TO TANAUAN CITY. KINDLY FAX YOUR RESUME AT TEL. NO. 043-778-09-60 OR E-MAIL AT dmmc@pacific.net.ph RE: JOB APPLICATION OR MAIL TO NO. 1 PRES. LAUREL HIGHWAY, TANAUAN CITY, BATANGAS. YOU MAY ALSO CONTACT MS. SYRINE CERICO OR MS. SHEILA SALIDO AT TEL. NO. 043-405-05-97 (Direct Line) OR CALL TELEPHONE NUMBERS 043-778-18-10, 043-405-1000.

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- Computer literate/familiar with windows and office
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(Manila – Centennial Airport outlets)
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Applicants may fax resumé at (046) 471-8262
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FRONT OFFICE ASSISTANT
Female, Single, 21-30 yrs old
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FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

We are looking for dynamic, aggressive, hardworking, and competent women to join our Sales and Marketing Team. We are looking for the following:

5 to 7 - ACCOUNT OFFICERS
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CEBU CITY

PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT SERVICES OFFICE, CEBU PROVINCIAL CAPITOL, CEBU CITY
MARCH 11TH & 12TH, 2004 / MARCH 15TH & 16TH, 2004

CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY

POEA REGIONAL EXTENSION UNIT, 3/F MARCOSO BUILDING, CORRALES-HAYES STS.
MARCH 18TH & 19TH, 2004

ZAMBOANGA CITY

POEA REGIONAL EXT. UNIT, 2/F JOSE CO BLDG., NO.8 VETERANS AVENUE, ZAMBOANGA CITY
MARCH 18TH & 19TH, 2004

DAVAO CITY

POEA REGIONAL CENTER FOR MINDANAO, 2/F AMYA 2 BUILDING,
QUIMPO BLVD., COR. TULIP DRIVE, ECOLAND, DAVAO CITY
MARCH 22ND & 23RD, 2004

IPAMS REPRESENTATIVES WILL BE ON THE ABOVE DATES & AREAS TO ACCEPT APPLICATION AND CONDUCT INITIAL SCREENING. APPLICANTS FROM **VISAYAS & MINDANAO** MUST PERSONALLY APPLY ON THE ABOVE DATES & VENUE FOR INITIAL SCREENING & SHORTLISTING

METRO MANILA & LUZON APPLICANTS MUST PERSONALLY APPLY AT IPAMS OFFICE FOR PRELIMINARY SCREENING AND INCLUSION FOR ASSESSMENT & FINAL INTERVIEW BY **EMIRATES AIRLINES & Dnata** COMMENCING **LAST WEEK OF MARCH, 2004**

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BRING YOUR COMPREHENSIVE RESUME, COPY OF EMPLOYMENT & SCHOOL CREDENTIALS, PASSPORT COPY & 2 PCS. PASSPORT SIZE PHOTOS. APPLICANTS FOR FLIGHT ATTENDANTS & CUSTOMER SERVICE AGENTS MUST ALSO SUBMIT FULL BODY PHOTO (SIZE 3R) IN BUSINESS ATTIRE.

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POEA-161-LB-040102-R

INDUSTRIAL PERSONNEL AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC.
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E-mail: employment@ipams.com

ABSOLUTELY NO FEES. BEWARE OF ILLEGAL RECRUITERS. WE SHALL ONLY RESPOND TO QUALIFIED CANDIDATES

KING FAISAL SPECIALIST HOSPITAL AND RESEARCH CENTRE
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

KING FAISAL SPECIALIST HOSPITAL AND RESEARCH CENTER REPRESENTATIVES ARE HERE ON MONDAY, MARCH 08, 2004 TO INTERVIEW/SELECT/RECRUIT FOR THE FOLLOWING URGENTLY NEEDED POSITIONS:

ARCHITECTS, STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS, ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS, MECHANICAL ENGINEERS, AND COMPUTER GRAPHICS AND ANIMATION SPECIALIST.

Candidates should be graduates (BS, MS) design architects, structural, electrical, mechanical engineers. Must have a minimum of eight (8) years experience for such systems in healthcare facilities; jobs related Planning/Design/ Construction experience with consulting engineering/ engineering companies. Working with **auto-cad, MS projects, Primavera computer tools, is a requirement.**

QUALIFIED CANDIDATES must PERSONALLY register and submit detailed resumé with job descriptions, certificates of employment/training, photo copy of college diploma, board license/certificate, PRC card and 2 (two) pcs. current 2x2 picture, No Objection Certificate (if ex-Saudi) between 8-4 PM to the:

PHILIPPINE OVERSEAS
EMPLOYMENT ADMINISTRATION
MANPOWER REGISTRY DIVISION, WINDOW 1
Ground Floor, Left Wing Lobby
EDSA cor. Ortigas Ave., Mandaluyong City

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: MARCH 8, 2004
INTERVIEW SHALL BE ON MARCH 8, 2004

Arrange chronologically in a cream folder all xerox copies in accordance with the above-mentioned requirements. Bring original documents arranged in similar manner for verification

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***** Other hospitals under Baptist Health System (Miami, Florida area)**
..South Miami Hospital..
.....Doctor's Hospital.....
.....Homestead Hospital....

NURSES...YOU WON'T GO WRONG!

Salary: The highest in the market compared among the same hospitals in the same geographical location....**$20-$30** per hour plus shift differentials (starting salaries varies with years of experience).

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Plus: **FREE**
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- ONE WAY AIRFARE TO THE JOB SITE
- TWO- THREE MONTHS HOUSING
- RE-IMBURSEMENT OF ALL EXAMS NECESSARY TO OBTAIN A U.S. IMMIGRANT VISA

Come and see us for an orientation, interview and screening tests on the following dates:

DAVAO : March 15 & 16 at The APO VIEW HOTEL from 8 A.M. to 6 P.M./Cell No.:0916-8216568

MANILA: March 18,19, 22 to 26 and 29 to 31, 2004 from 9 A.M. to 6 P.M.// Room 2604 Antel Global Corporate Center, Julia Vargas Ave., Ortigas Center, Pasig City/Tel. Nos. (02) 6879074;6879073;6872657 & 6872658
E-mail Add : amehanph@info.com.ph

CEBU : April 1 to 9, 2004 // 9-2 Escario St. cor. Tojong St., Cebu City from 9 A.M. to 6 P.M// Tel Nos.: (032) 231-8890 to 91
E-mail Add : amehan@info.com.ph

Bring a comprehensive and updated resume with 2 pcs. 2x2 pictures attached on it/ copy of college diploma. Transcript of records, related learning experience, exam certificates or any related, birth and marriage certificates and copy of passport.

" ABSOLUTELY NO SALARY DEDUCTION. . NO FEES IN THE PHILIPPINES AND IN THE U.S.A"
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Save the Children®

Save the Children Federation, Inc. is a US-based non-profit organization working in over forty countries world wide, implementing community development projects that help children in need. Save the Children is searching for qualified candidates for:

PROGRAM TECHNICAL COORDINATOR FOR MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH

Reporting directly to the Program Manager in the Sulu Province Sub-Office, the Program Technical Coordinator for MCH will be responsible for organizing and developing project interventions on Maternal and Child Health, capacity building for partners at the *barangay*, municipal and provincial level, monitoring, evaluation and documentation of projects and strengthening of partnership coordination at the regional level.

The position will be based in Jolo in the Province of Sulu and will require frequent travel within the area.

Requirements:

Applicants should have at least 3 years relevant experience in community health development projects with signficant exposure in management of Maternal & Child Health programs, complemented by an educational background in medicine, nursing, public health or any health-related field. Possession of a post graduate degree is highly desirable. Computer literacy is a must.

Applicants should be culture-sensitive, results-oriented, dynamic, creative and hardworking. Moreover, he/she should have excellent communication and interpersonal skills. Exprerienced professionals based in Sulu and nearby provinces are encouraged to apply.

Qualified applicants may send their resumes on or before March 31, 2004 to : *By mail* - CODE:PTC - MCH, Save the Children Federation, Inc., No.1 Encarnacion Street corner Lapu-Lapu Avenue, Magallanes Village, Makati City, Metro Manila. *By fax*: (632) 853-02-15. *By e-mail*: allaneza@savechildren.org (Please indicate code "PTC - MCH" in subject line.)

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Hand-Rolled Soft Pretzels

AUNTIE ANNE'S INC., USA

The leading international soft pretzel food chain with over 800 stores in the US and worldwide, is in need of dynamic, assertive, articulate and aggressive career oriented individuals who are willing to travel abroad to fill in the position of

INTERNATIONAL STORE CONSULTANT

Responsibilities include providing direct operational, business consulting, and marketing support services to assigned licensed stores; continually guiding licensees and their staff to uphold Auntie Anne's three-fold philosophy and operating standards; promoting a healthy, honest relationship between licensees and the Home Office / Franchisor.

Qualified candidates must be holders of Bachelor's degree in business or related field; with minimum five years of relevant experience; management / leadership experience is necessary; with excellent interpersonal skills; highly goal-oriented, self-driven and can work independently; and must possess excellent verbal and written communication skills. International business experience is a plus.

Qualified applicants may apply personally from Mondays to Thursdays, 9:30 am-3:30 pm & bring comprehensive resume with 2x2 picture at:

PRETIOLAS (PHILS.), INC.
HRMD Department
201 Intrawest Center
33 Annapolis, Greenhills, San Juan City

The Legend Lives On

LEGEND INTERNATIONAL RESORTS LIMITED

A prestigious casino/hotel located at Subic Bay Freeport Zone is currently in need of:

CASINO PIT BOSS

JOB SUMMARY:
Ensures the smooth and efficient operation of the Pit and responsible for adherence to security measures of policies and procedures at all times.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Minimum of five years gaming experience with at least two years in Casino supervison;
- Strong knowledge and experience of all table games;
- Overseas employment in casino is preferred;
- Good public and employee relations;
- Strong leadership;
- Good oral and written communication skills;
- Trustworthy, reliable person whose honesty and integrity is beyond doubt;
- Should consider position as part of overall team effort and be able to liaise with equals and subordinates to ensure that gaming standards are strictly maintained;
- Good team player;
- Knowledge in Mandarin language is an advantage.

Residents of Olongapo, Zambales, Bataan, Pampanga and/or other areas in Central Luzon are preferred. Interested applicants may send/submit their resumés/bio-data with supporting documents and recent 2x2 photo to:

LEGEND INTERNATIONAL RESORTS LIMITED
Recruitment & Training Office
2F Oak Bldg., Legenda Suites, Cubi Point,
Subic Bay Freeport Zone, Olongapo City 2200
Fax No. (02) 813-5670
E-mail address: hrd@legendanet.com

BRAND MANAGER

- Male/Female (with pleasing personality and not more than 30 years old)
- With at least 1 year experience in Marketing
- Computer Literate

FEDERATED DISTRIBUTORS, INC.
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PIMS

An international marketing company in the country today is in need of high-caliber achievers who are looking for professional growth, self-fulfillment and new challenges in his / her career development.

GENERAL MANAGER (Japanese Executive)

Male, Japanese nationals preferably with working permit, 30 to 38 years old, at least a degree holder in any field, with experience in managing a company in the fields of sales, marketing, and telecommunication, can conceptualize and develop sales plans and programs to achieve and exceed annual and monthly sales targets thus ensuring sales growth, can demonstrate strong leadership, organization, management, and interpersonal skills, can lead, direct, and motivate employees, computer literate and can speak good English.

PROGRAMMER

Male or female, 22 to 30 years old, graduate of computer programming or any related course, with at least 2 years of experience in database client (client server) and web programming, above-average knowledge in VB6, MSSQL Server 7.0 / 2000, ASP, VB Script, HTML, Working knowledge in JAVA would be an advantage, can maintain, develop, enhance application system and can work for long hours.

HEALTH AND BEAUTY TRAINER

Female, 24 to 30 years old, graduate of any business-related course, with at least 1 year experience in similar position (training for health & beauty products), familiar with different organizational training, flexible and adaptable to a highly demanding environment, very strong communication and interpersonal skills are prerequisites, with very pleasing personality.

Applicants for the General Manager position should inquire by phone at 636-1486 and look for Ms. Myla Mendoza. Those who are applying for Programmer & Health & Beauty Trainer should apply in person and bring resumé with picture and photocopy of the ff: NBI, Transcript of Records, Diploma, Birth Certificate to 28th Floor Orient Square Bldg., Emerald Ave., Ortigas

---

We are a Manufacturing Company of consumer products with nationwide distribution and belonging to the Top 1000 corporations. We have vacancies for:

SHIFT ENGINEERS

- Male not more than 35 years old
- EE, ECE or Electro-Mechanical Tech graduate
- Must have at least 2 years, working experience
- Must be knowledgeable in trouble shooting & repair of motor controls and electro-pneumatic systems.

FIELD AUDITOR

- Male not more than 30 years old
- Accounting graduate with good scholastic record
- Preferably with experience in auditing, computer literate
- Must be honest, trustworthy and diligent

INTERNAL AUDITORS

- Female, single, not more than 30 years old
- Accounting graduate with good scholastic record
- Preferably with experience in auditing, computer literate
- Must be honest, trustworthy and diligent

SALES/MKTG. SECRETARY

- Female, single, not more than 30 years old
- College graduate in Business or related course
- Preferably with experience, computer literate
- Must be honest, trustworthy and diligent

Please send resumé, transcript of records and passport size photo to:

P.O. BOX NO. 12940, Ortigas Center Post Office, Pasig City
Or apply in person at ACS Manufacturing Corporation Unit 1108
Antel Global Corporate Ctr., #3 Julia Vargas Ave.,
Ortigas Ctr., Pasig City

SAN BENILDO INTEGRATED SCHOOL

De La Salle Supervised
Marcos & Sumulong Highway, Rizal

Is in need of the following:

1. GS & HS teachers in all subject areas (Should be LET passer)
2. Librarian
3. Guidance Counselors

(Hiring rate - Php 12,000.00)

Applicants should bring the following:

- Letter of application & resumé with picture
- Transcript of records & recommendation letter from previous employer
- Photocopy of Birth and Baptismal Cert./NBI Clearance

For inquiries call **8811718 - Grade School**
8808105 - High School

A good package awaits the chosen candidate for the position of...

SERVICE TECHNICIAN

Qualifications:

- Male, between 24-38 years old
- Engineering graduate preferably ECE or EE (knowledgeable in DATACOMM, ELECTRICAL, MECHANICAL)
- Basic knowledge in programming (DBASE, C+ language)
- Must have at least two years of work experience in the field of Engineering.
- Good moral character

Submit your bio-data with ID photo to:

ALL VISUAL & LIGHTS SYSTEMS
Unit C-15 3rd Floor
New Farmer's Plaza Mall,
Araneta Center, Cubao
Quezon City
Tel.#911-0904 / 911-0947

LOSAR OPTICS, INC.
SARABIA OPTICAL

Leading optical retail chain is in urgent need of:

Marketing Coordinator

- Strong in visual merchandizing
- Can conceptualize, develop, implement, monitor & evaluate marketing activities and strategies
- Graduate of any business course pref. Business Administration or Marketing
- Excellent communication skills
- People and customer service oriented
- Experience in retail an advantage

WE ARE ALSO IN NEED OF:
Inventory Assistant (w/ experience)
Optometrists (Manila & provincial branches)

Send resume with 2x2 picture to: U702 Antel 2000, 121 Valero St., Salcedo Vill, Makati City or email at losar@nsclub.net. Tel.# 8876720 or fax at 8871317.

We are looking for:

SALES and MARKETING Personnel

Graduate of any 4 year university course.
Especially Marketing and Advertising graduates.
(we welcome fresh graduates)
Single male or female
Must be presentable.
With 2 years sales experience
Must be computer literate.
Must possess strong leadership & above average communication skills

ACCOUNTANTS and ACCOUNTING CLERKS

BS Accountancy graduate with above average grades.
Must be honest and experienced
Must be computer literate.
Knowledgeable in Quickbooks is a plus

Interested candidates can email their resumes at hr@pinnacleasia.com

---

IMMEDIATE HIRING!

- **OFFICE STAFF**
- **MANAGERIAL POSITION**

QUALIFICATIONS:

- 18-35 years old, Male/Female
- College graduate/ College Level
- Willing to be assigned in any vacant position

Please apply in person for immediate interview on March 8 to 13, 2004, Suite 808 West Tower, Phil. Stock Exchange Ctr., Exchange Rd., Ortigas Center, Pasig City
Look for Ms. Ricia Abacan
"Clip this ad"

WANTED

PAWNSHOP CLERKS

Female. Single w/ pleasing personality. College graduate (preferably business course). Computer Literate, 21-24 yrs old, Residing in Rizal, Caloocan, or Novaliches area.

Please send resumé with picture and transcript of records at:

MANILA EAST PAWNSHOP
Unit 110
Manila East Arcade
San Juan, Taytay, Rizal

Looking for an
ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES
for a publishing & events mgt. Co.

Female/Male Creative, articulate, artistic, assertive, preferably w/ experience in advtg & events Mass Comm., Mktg.

Personally submit your resume at 9/F Unit 938 City & Land Plaza, ADB Ave., cor. Garnet Rd., Pasig City

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JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

The ***Visayan Forum Foundation, Inc.***, a Manila-based NGO (with regional offices in Batangas, Bacolod, Davao and Matnog) that works for the welfare of marginalized migrants especially domestic workers, and trafficked women and children, urgently needs the following positions for its anti-trafficking program with support from *Plan-Philippines*:

(1) NATIONAL TRAINING OFFICER

(to be based in Manila)

Qualifications:

- Graduate of Behavioral Science, Psychology, Sociology or other related courses
- Experience in NGO developmental work, specializing in children's rights, child labor or women's welfare is an advantage
- Has at least 2 years working experience in training and module preparations in an NGO or other developmental work
- Knowledgeable in project proposal-making and report-writing
- Willing to work overtime and conduct provincial travels
- Ability to work with a team
- Good in oral and written communications
- Computer literate
- Good interpersonal relations, especially with women and children

(1) PUBLICATIONS OFFICER

(to be based in Manila)

Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree, preferably in Mass Communications, Creative Writing or other Social Sciences courses
- With initial experience in managing publications such as newsletters, periodicals, journals, etc.
- Preferably with extensive experiences in development work, especially with children's and women's issues
- Must be computer-literate and proficient in Pagemaker or other layouting softwares
- Website design skill is an advantage
- International networking and advocacy background will be highly preferred
- Able to meet deadlines and willing to travel in regional project areas
- Team-worker and can perform multiple tasks with minimum supervision
- Sensitive to the best interest of exploited women and children

(1) LICENSED SOCIAL WORKER

(for Matnog, Sorsogon)

Qualifications:

- Graduate in Social Work
- Experience in NGO developmental work, specializing in children's rights, particularly on child labor, and trafficking of women and children is an advantage
- Extensive experience in case management and handling of children and women in distress
- Good in oral and written communications, especially in case of documentation
- Computer literate
- Ability to work with the team
- Good interpersonal relations, especially with women and children
- Preferably single and willing to stay-in

(2) FIELD ORGANIZERS

(for Matnog, Sorsogon & Allen, Northern Samar)

Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree major in Social Work or Social Sciences
- Has at least 2 years experience in NGO community organizing and other developmental work
- Good in oral and written communications
- Willing to conduct travel across the region
- Networking experience with GOs, NGOs and INGOs is highly preferred
- Computer literate
- Ability to work with the team
- Good in interpersonal relations, especially with women and children

(4) PROVINCIAL FIELD OFFICERS

(for Eastern Samar, Western Samar, Southern Leyte, and Cebu)

Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree, preferably in Social Sciences or other related courses
- At least 2 years experience in NGO community organizing and other developmental work
- Good in oral and written communications
- Willing to travel across the region
- Computer literate
- Ability to work with the team
- Good interpersonal relations, especially with women and children

(1) ACCOUNT OFFICER/FINANCIAL ANALYST

(to be based in Manila)

Qualifications:

- Accounting graduate
- Has at least 2 years experience in handling financial matters preferably in NGO work
- Efficient in accounting cycle & preparations of Financial Statements based on requirements by the funding agencies
- Proficiency in use of various applications (MS Word, Excel, Quickbook, etc.)
- Good interpersonal relations

Interested applicants may apply personally and bring with them their application letter, together with comprehensive resume and other credentials. They may also fax, mail, or e-mail their application directly to the:

Executive Director
Visayan Forum Foundation, Inc.
2873 Lamayan Street, Sta. Ana, Manila
Fax: (02) 563-45-14
E-mails: admin@visayanforum.org
visforum@info.com.ph

Note: Only qualified applicants will be notified

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING!

A *leading multinational company* is in need of dynamic, assertive and mature professionals to occupy the following position in our organization.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

- Female, with very pleasing personality; With an appropriate college degree; Must have relevant work experience in the same capacity; Computer literate, has good command of English language and with good communications skills, mature and organized, and can work extended hours

ACCOUNTANTS

- Male or Female; With an appropriate college degree, Must have relevant working experience; Good communications skills, and can work extended hours; Certified Public Accountant, an advantage

Qualified candidates are requested to MAIL their comprehensive and detailed resume' indicating the minimum salary desired, latest 2 x 2 photo, telephone numbers and other relevant credentials to

P.O. BOX 7748
Domestic Airport Post Office
Metro Manila, Philippines
Attention: THE LEGAL & PERSONNEL AFFAIRS DEPT.

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING!

A *leading multinational company* is in need of dynamic, assertive and mature professionals to occupy the following position in our organization

ENTRY LEVEL POSITIONS FOR NEW COLLEGE GRADUATES

- Male or Female; With business related courses

Qualified candidates are requested to MAIL their comprehensive and detailed resume' indicating the minimum salary desired, latest 2 x 2 photo, telephone numbers and other relevant credentials to

P.O. BOX 7748
Domestic Airport Post Office
Metro Manila, Philippines
Attention: THE LEGAL & PERSONNEL AFFAIRS DEPT

WANTED

ELECTRICIAN

- With 5 years experience in highrise condominium maintenance
- Preferably Electrical Engineer

Apply in person:

Providence Tower 2000
2471 Leon Guinto Street cor.
Estrada Street, Malate Manila

e-mail: peopleatwork@inquirer.com.ph.

Sunday PEOPLE at WORK

Contributing Editor Regina Galang Reyes

Provincial grads urged to 'think positive' to be competitive in job market

By Gil Francis G. Arevalo
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

LEGAZPI CITY—With the fast-approaching commencement exercises this March, the dilemma of graduating students, especially in the province—that of job-hunting—once again rears it ugly head.

The common fear is, "Will I also belong to the huge army of unemployed graduates? "

Job hunting techniques

Some 100 graduating students of the SL Technology School Foundation Inc. in this city got hope and motivation during the recent first "Job-Hunting Seminar" in their school.

Resource speaker Jesse Francis Rebustillo, Corporate Human Resource Services head of the Philippine Daily Inquirer, buoyed the students' spirit during his more than five-hour talk last Feb. 7, which focused on the various aspects and perspective of job-hunting.

These aspects include self-esteem, self-awareness, self-concept and self-efficacy; what to do, what to know, what to have, and what is really expected in a particular job or endeavor; choosing and defining one's career; and job searching, which includes how to write an application letter and resume as well as how to prepare oneself for an interview.

Not different

Rebustillo stressed that students from the province can be competitive nationally, if not globally.

"I do believe that students from Manila or those belonging to known schools in the country are not that different from you—your talents, attitudes, capabilities, experiences, know-how and aspirations. That's why all of you must not stop thinking positively that you can make an impact and breakthrough," he said.

Rebustillo noted that there are lots of people from the province who eventually became successful. "It's just a matter of working hard and reprogramming one's concept and attitude," he said.

"I know that all of you really want to work in Manila, for there are more opportunities there compared here in the province. But to do that, be very sure that you are in full metal gear—physically, mentally, emotionally, and even financially. Don't go there if you're not ready, you'll only be disappointed," he advised.

Rebustillo discussed in detail what an organization really demands as to the right person, competencies requirement and values.

"The right people in a job are those who are more productive, who learn faster, likely to stay in the job and highly satisfied, as it reduces turnover," he said.

He also stressed excellence, communication, credibility or image, empowerment, accountability, goals and results orientation as competencies that are indispensably needed nowadays. "Do you have those? If not yet, then better start having them now," the PDI officer urged.

Programming

He added that competencies also require innovativeness and dynamism, integrity and ethics, sense of urgency and time management, social responsibility and teamwork. "However, all these mentioned can only be attained if you have the attitude of being positive, have your own personal affirmations, learn how to redevelop an internal locus of control, and have the power to visualize," Rebustillo.

He told the students that programming creates beliefs, beliefs create attitudes, attitudes create feelings, and feelings determine actions.

The corporate HR practitioner taught the graduating students how to write better and acceptable application letters and resumes, and how to conduct oneself in an interview.

"There is no security in life, there is only opportunity. So, if you don't have the right and better presentation of your application letter and resume as well as bearing in interviews, then you'll be sorry," Rebustillo said.

In writing application letters, he pointed out, an applicant should only mention the following: how you came to know about the job vacancy, what position you are applying for, why you think you are qualified and what is the easiest way to reach you.

While in resume writing, he added, one must only include the following: education, work experience, training, skills, interest/hobbies, and personal data.

"In writing your resume, try to assess the following: Are your telephone numbers and address accurate? And by the way, if you don't have a cell phone or landline phone, then start to in-

PROVINCIAL/I-8

Seminar on Job hunting
FEBRUARY

PHOTO BY NINO JESUS OREETA

Inquirer's Corporate HR Services Head Jesse Francis Rebustillo inspires Albay students to think, compete and work globally.

REFLECTIONS FOR THE WORKING SOUL

Transfiguration and work

By Bishop Precioso D. Cantillas, SDB,DD

JOCELYN was a promising star singer. She left her hometown and tried her fortune in the big city of Metro Manila. She auditioned for a part in a TV show and reached almost the last phase of realizing her dream of becoming a professional singer if not for her being overweight. In her eagerness to reduce weight sooner, she took an overdose of slimming pills, which affected her nervous system badly and brought her to a comatose state for almost a week. She reduced weight indeed, but her singing ability was impaired; she went back to her hometown with her dreams shattered by an attempt to "transfigure" herself.

Having a nice figure, a good appearance and a pleasing personality are important personal assets in getting a job. Many workers realize that these are also essential in keeping one's job or in seeking promotion in the company. Many therefore, are willing to sacrifice and work hard and pay dearly for learning the techniques on how to develop these desirable traits; they eagerly buy medicinal and health products claiming success in maintaining these attractive qualities. However, the burden and stress of hard work continue to take their toll on the workers' health and figure, and many seem never satisfied with the results of these commercial and human "transfiguration" methods and products.

Jesus offers the workers His method of transfiguration, that of praying—being totally immersed, mind and body, in the loving presence of God, the Father! Prayer will surely keep one in good shape, without danger of overdose!

(*E-mail the author at* mfvg@skyinet.net)

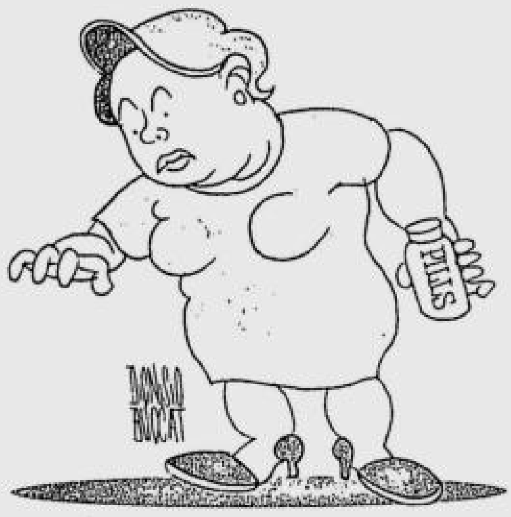

ILLUSTRATION BY DIONISIO BUCCAT

Gospel. Lk 9: 28-36

About eight days after he said this, he took Peter, John, and James and went up the mountain to pray. While he was praying, his face changed in appearance and his clothing became dazzling white.

An actor's work

By Teresa R. Tunay, OCDS

ASK any actor worth his salt and he'll tell you that for him to be effective in portraying the role, he has to get out of himself, so to speak, and let the character he's playing "possess" him. There is someone in the crew called "motivator" who could be the drama coach or the director. If the scene calls for an angry actor, the motivator nudges him with something like "Think of that unforgettable incident in your life when you became so angry you could kill! Live that moment again and be angry, burn with hatred! " Or, if it's a tear-jerking scene and he'd rather cry than have onion juice squirted into his eyes, his tears look real if he revives the one incident that had caused him to shed copious tears. Such is "transfiguration," showbiz style.

But when Jesus' "face changed in appearance and his clothing became dazzling white," it wasn't due to human intervention—it was the power of God manifesting. Can the same power be tapped by a movie actor portraying Christ?

For actor James Caviezel, playing the role of Jesus in Mel Gibson's film "The Passion of Christ" was not just another acting job. Deeply cognizant of his limitations both as an actor and as a man, he would—before the start of each shooting day—pray hard, empty himself, go to confession and receive communion. Leaving his acting in the hands of God, was he able to bring Jesus back to life for the moviegoers? Can the power of the Almighty be manifested on the silver screen? With God, nothing is impossible.

(*E-mail the author at* avemaria@csi.com.ph)

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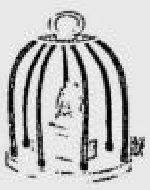

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FRIENDS AT WORK

Friends learn teamwork in restaurant business

By Mario M. Banzon

"IT never started with 'Let's earn two million,' " says Del Castillo, one of the owners of Likha Diwa. "It has always been the other way around. Let's do these things and maybe money will follow. It has always been like that even today." Despite this seemingly unsound business strategy, the approach is perfectly appropriate for the café/vegetarian restaurant situated at the outskirts of the University of the Philippines in Diliman. After all, the outrageous business attitude has given the owners enough room for experimentation and enabled them to put their personal satisfaction before anything else, including financial gain.

Passion

In fact, it was their passion for discovering new things that led Castillo and her cousin Zeny Oblifias into the food industry. "We wanted to bring in new energy so we decided to expand our pottery-bric-a-brac business," says Castillo. An expansion that also included two new friends/business associates Che Prudente and Emmie Herediano and a cozy, artsy vegetarian restaurant cum café called Likha Diwa in Krus na Ligas in Quezon City.

A rocky start

Being adventurous and free-spirited, however, didn't translate well into a smooth, trouble-free business. Though Likha Diwa is already on its fifth year, putting up the restaurant was not as easy as the owners thought it would be. As Castillo candidly admitted, during that time they can only provide labor, not the financial backing. Naturally, the group was in a constant struggle for the first two years.

Matters were further complicated with individual differences and management styles, which initially caused troubles.

"Since we were going into it for the first time, we had different ideas on how to do things, from the taste of the food to the recipes that will be used. From the mixture of the drinks to how the entire café will be run," says Castillo. "It took us a while before we knew how to handle our differences."

Eventually, they decided to take turns in managing the restaurant to avoid the inevitable conflicts.

Diverse ambience

But if the group's conflicting personalities were initially a hindrance, it later proved to be one of their most important assets. The four varied personalities also gave birth to a place where one is constantly surprised, from the interiors of the restaurant to the food that the menu offers. "People like our menu because we have a diverse selection," says Castillo. "I think it is really the passion of the partners that gave more variation and colors to what we serve."

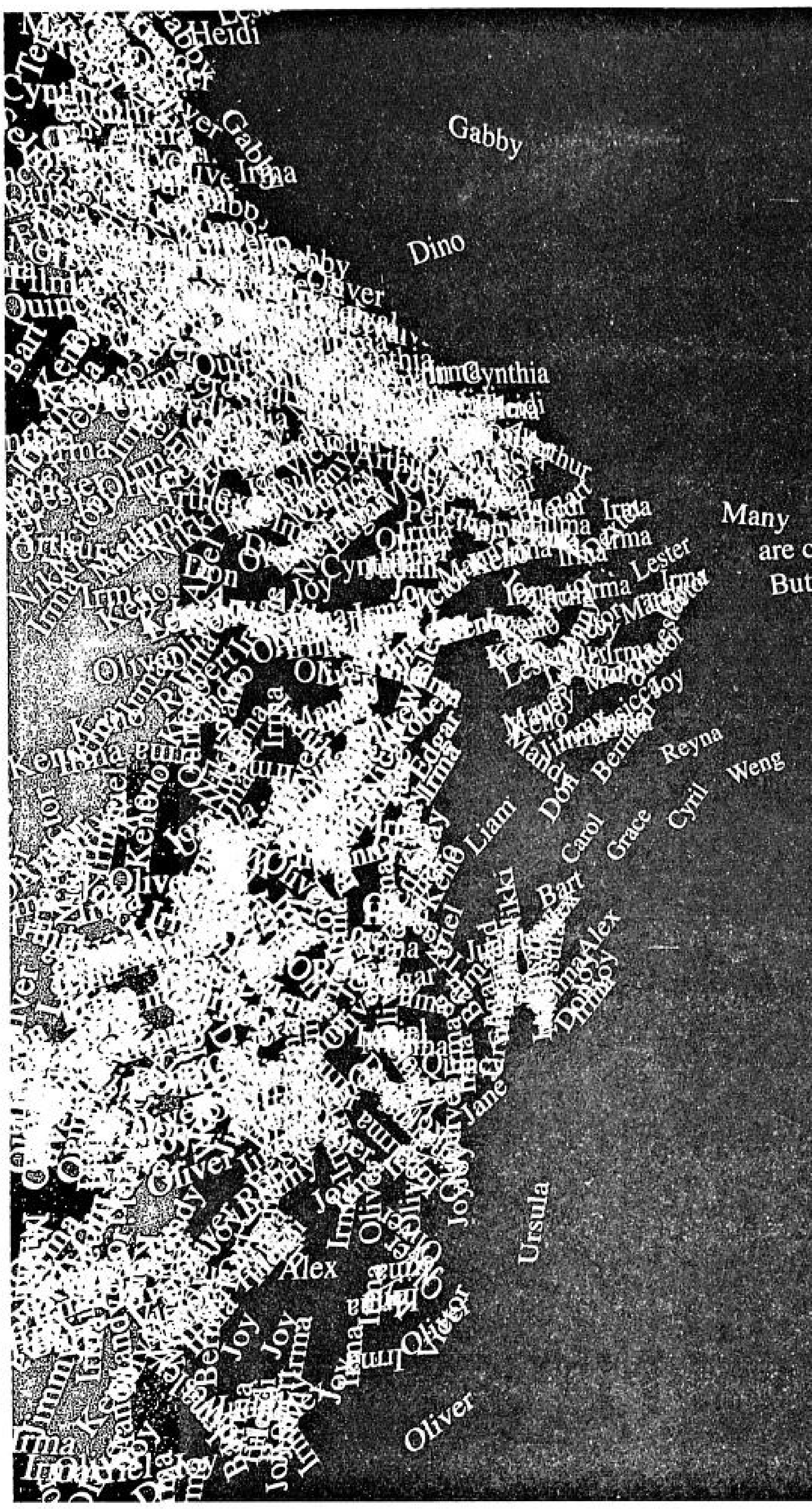
In fact, the group considers the restaurant as the best thing that their friendship has produced.

Somehow, the group's struggles and unique characteristics can all be found scattered around the four corners of the restaurant. "Likha Diwa has become our nesting ground," says Oblifias. "It is here where we discovered ourselves."

"Our relationship continues to grow and we still have to discover a lot of things about each other. I think you share your growth as a person to a bigger relationship, to a group (of people around you). Maybe it's not really that differences are settled or ironed out. I think we should always recognize that we are all different. There might be some aspects where we agree but it's nicer if there is still some diversity left. It's better if we could retain our individuality," says Castillo.

Castillo, Oblifias, Prudente and Herediano may have more differences than similarities but that doesn't mean they can't get along. "I think we all became beautiful as persons," says Oblifias on the experiences they have gone through. "And you can't put value in that. We were able to accept the ugly part of ourselves but we were also able to find our beautiful side. There was an acceptance within the group."

TWO of the four Likha Diwa owners Del Castillo (left) and Zeny Oblifias



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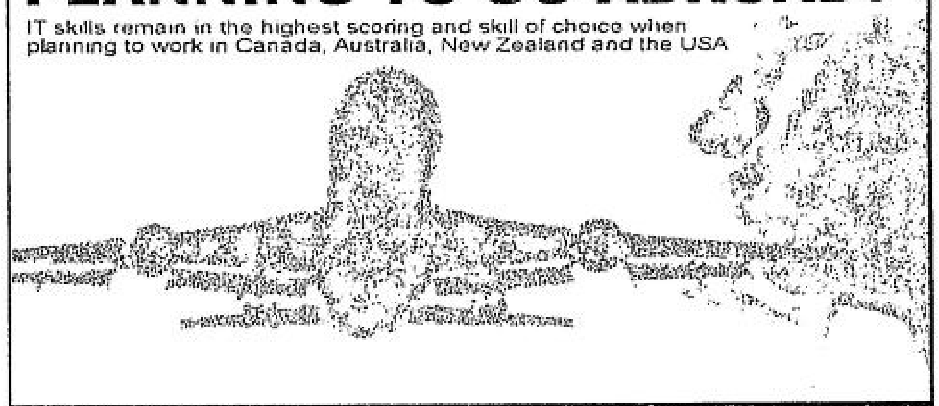

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sunday
GET TO KNOW SOME REAL PEOPLE
INQUIRER
March 7, 2004

The Rise of Loren Legarda

Smart go-getter or flip-flopping political player? Whatever you think of the high-profile TV personality-turned-legislator, there's no ignoring her meteoric ascent. Will she make it to the second highest post in the land?

By Cynthia D. Balana
Photograph by Romy Homillada

SHE IS running late for her next stop, so Sen. Loren Legarda motions me to join her in her Ford Mark III series. It's going to be a moving interview, literally, nothing new to this vice-presidential contender who has gained a reputation for being a workaholic. Such a frenetic pace has drawn criticism from those who cannot catch up with her, nor understand what the excitement is all about.

Legarda talks fast when she is happy, and even faster when she is mad. After wading through a throng of supporters whom she greets with a smile, she collapses into the car, her 5'3" frame a study in gloom. The day before, her Senate office was razed by fire. She has also lost five pounds to exhaustion, she says, since she announced her vice presidential bid in January. But Legarda has mastered the art of the interview and is good at maintaining a mask of calm, no matter how tricky the questions are.

The rapid ascent of the woman who started as a commercial model has become legend, but her critics are not impressed. A mere "news reader," feisty former senator Miriam Santiago puts it. The Senate's "majority-minority floor leader," twits Sen. Joker Arroyo, describing Legarda's ability to dance so skillfully with both the opposition and the administration. But the worst heckling that seems to have hit a raw nerve were the words of former military intelligence chief Brig. General Victor Corpus, who called her "a political prostitute," for "sleeping with the Left and the Right," from the National Democratic Front's Jose Ma. Sison, to movie actor Fernando Poe Jr., her presidential running mate, and recently, the Remullas of Cavite who are known for their Marcos ties during martial law.

"Who would not get hurt?" Legarda asks of Corpus's remarks. "But I pity them more because they'd have to create fiction to destroy my unsullied reputation." She adds, "Sticks and stones may hurt my bones but words will never hurt me, especially if they are fabricated. In my 20 years as a journalist and six years in the Senate, I've worked hard to live up to the good name of my *Lolo* Pepe." Her *lolo* is Jose P. Bautista, former editor in chief of the pre-martial law Manila Times.

She dismisses the other unkind words because, Legarda says, the secret of a happy life is forgiveness. "That's why I'm a happy person, and maybe why I have this glow on my face even when I'm stressed out. It's because I don't hate anyone," she adds with a smile that, she insists, she is not faking.

That toothpaste smile landed the senator her first TV commercial some 29 years ago.

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Loren

...from page 1

LOREN
LEGARDA

Celebrating her birthday last Jan. 28 with family and running mate FPJ

Legarda recalls how Mira Bulchand, an agent from J. Walter Thompson, came to see her cousin, who was then a commercial model of the ad agency, at the Legarda compound in Malabon. Her cousin was older and prettier but it was Legarda, then 15, who caught the agent's eyes. "Can you smile?" Buchand said to her, and Legarda showed off her pearly whites. She was chosen Ms. Close Up Smile for the toothpaste commercial, her first step to a network career that would later launch her into politics.

At 16, Legarda became Ms. Pond's, Ms. Kanebo cosmetics and the Blue Clinic shampoo model. Her pretty face became a fixture on TV commercials, endorsing almost everything from Purefoods Hotdogs to Ariel detergent. Her commercial endorsements as a senator, in fact, sparked a brief controversy on whether elected officials should squander their credibility doing private business on public time.

No matter. The cameras definitely love Legarda, but she is not vain, she insists. Her beauty secret, she laughs, is "stress!" With her hair swept clean from her face and her penchant for white shirts, the look she cultivates is classic and uncluttered. "I like white, because my life is already so complicated and too colorful. I feel so much lighter when I'm in white."

Studious

Always a studious person, Legarda graduated from the UP College of Mass Communications *cum laude* in 1981, with a degree in broadcast journalism. She has a master's degree in National Security Administration from the National Defense College of the Philippines. The youngest in Batch 27, she emerged as topnotcher and was awarded two gold medals: for academic excellence and for best thesis. She is a lieutenant colonel of the reserve force of the Philippine Air Force and author of "PEP Talk, the Book." She was also a TOYM awardee in 1992, a Benigno Aquino Fellowship awardee in 1995 and a TOWNS awardee in 1996.

Legarda was named one of the "10 Most Admired Filipinos" for three consecutive years starting in 1995 in a campus survey of students from several prestigious colleges and universities. Among the other choices were former Manila Archbishop Jaime Cardinal Sin, President Fidel Ramos, national hero Jose P. Rizal, champion bowler Paeng Nepomuceno, Broadway star Lea Salonga, boxer Onyok Velasco, SBMA chairman Richard Gordon, Sen. Juan Flavier, then Sen. Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, and singers Gary Valenciano and Regine Velasquez. Legarda's civic involvement includes the Citizens' Drug Watch and Trees for Life Foundation, and Luntiang Pilipinas.

Others might consider her an overachiever, while her detractors describe her as "overly ambitious." She doesn't mind the criticism, says Legarda, describing them as part of the media play by Malacañang and coming mainly from macho sources. "They call me *ambisyosa* because I'm a woman and because I'm young. But they don't call such men ambitious." President Macapagal-Arroyo was described the same way when she ran for vice president, notes Legarda.

Pre-politics days with husband Tony and sons Leandro and Lorenzo

Far from leading a charmed life, she has made a few mistakes in life, she admits. At 24, Legarda married Jonjie Aranda, but the marriage lasted all of nine months and was annulled in church and in civil court. The only "consolation" she had from that marriage, she says, was having no child by him. She'd rather not talk about it, however. "This is one chapter of my life that I consider closed," she says. She has not seen him for 20 years and does not know his present whereabouts, she says. "There's no regret, though, because it made me strong as a person."

Indeed, says former Defense Secretary Orly Mercado, who was Legarda's mentor at UP, one thing he likes about his former student is her capacity to rise whenever she falls. Mercado gave Legarda her first break on TV.

Rapid rise

Legarda's rapid rise from being a news reader to TV host and producer, some people attribute either to having the right connections, her looks, and some allege, her ability to take credit for actual work done by her staff. Not true, protests her former colleague, TV producer Anjie Ureta, who worked with her in "Inside Story." Legarda, says Ureta, "works very hard and expects the same from her people. She leads by example. If she asks you to do something, you have to prove that you can do it, otherwise you'd get embarrassed because she'd do it herself." And because Legarda can stay up as late as 1 or 2 a.m. working on the TV show, some people resent that, Ureta says. "But that's her. On the other hand, because she drives you hard, you learn a lot, you push yourself and end up doing well yourself. You get very good training in the process."

Adds Ureta, "I don't understand why people have the impression that Loren just sits around and takes all the credit. I wouldn't have lasted eight years with her if she was really like that. I don't think I would have matured in this profession if not for Loren."

Legarda is the only daughter of Antonio Cabrera Legarda of Manila and San Pablo City, Laguna, and of Bessie Gella Bautista of Malabon and Antique. Her father was a car salesman while Bessie was a secretary in a bank. Hers was a simple middle class family who valued quality education and fine upbringing, says the senator.

Legarda grew up with two younger brothers. Gary is a graduate of Fordham University and is chief representative and vice president of the Singapore-based DBS Bank, Ltd. AA, 35, has a master's degree from the Asian Institute of Management, and is a successful businessman.

Although all are equally accomplished, Legarda claims there was no sibling rivalry. "I've always been their *manang* who helped them when they were young. I even partly sent my younger brother to school."

Legarda lost her mother to breast cancer on August 7, 1996 and she misses her the way she imagines her sons miss her when she's out campaigning. "Memories of my mother make me cry," she says. "You know, I'm the only girl, and I don't have a sister. I have many women friends but it's different to have a mother who understands you completely."

In 1987, Legarda married former Batangas Gov. Tony Leviste, a Muslim convert, who married her thrice—in the United States, in Muslim rites under the Shariah, and in a "Catholic marriage in conscience" or with a priest's consent. In Muslim tradition, Leviste had to ask the approval of his first wife, Celia Sarangaya, for him to be able to marry Legarda, an honorary Princess Bai'a Labi. The title was bestowed by the Marawi Sultanate League for the senator's work with the Muslims.

The Levistes have two sons: Lorenzo Antonio, an honor student and newspaper columnist at 13, and Leandro Antonio, 10, a math wizard and class president. Both are studying at the Ateneo. Legarda says she is also very close to Leviste's first wife and his daughter, Olympic medalist Toni, who is now part of her campaign bureau.

Her only love secret, confides Legarda, is the name of her first love, who still helps her around in her work as a politician. "But I've outgrown him," she says, grinning. "One day, I'll write a book on the loves of my life."

Her current love, her husband Tony, has unfortunately been a magnet of controversies himself, as some quarters allege that his ambitions have egged her on to seek higher office. Others claim that his alleged landgrabbing activities in Batangas were drawing so much flak that Legarda had to formally file her candidacy under her maiden name, to dissociate herself from the reportedly tainted Leviste name.

Legarda denies such allegations. "Tony respects me for my independence, my integrity and my ideals. He does not and will not interfere with my public duties. And I do not and will not allow him to interfere in my public responsibilities. My public record speaks for itself."

But public perception can be misleading, and though Legarda swears her everyday favorite meals consist of "steamed *ampalaya*, *okra* and *wansoy*, *paksiw na tawilis*, *adobong kangkong*, and *inihaw na talong*," people think she is too classy to be real. "They say *sosyal daw ang dating ko*. But I'm not a snob. In the provinces, people hug and kiss me. *Umaakyat ako sa bundok. Yan ba ang sosyal?* (I think nothing of trekking across mountains)."

Penchant for publicity

In fact, Legarda has scaled several mountains and jungle hideaways, negotiating with the Leftists and Muslim rebels, and being prominently photographed with her arm grafted to that of the released hostages. Such penchant for publicity is another point that her detractors take against her, an indication, they say, of how publicly she gathers political capital and sows political favors.

The very public posturing has made her fair game to speculations pitting her against fellow broadcaster and vice presidential candidate Noli de Castro. She believes she has an edge over him. "I don't think about defeat. When you go into political battle, you either win or you win. I'm confident that the people will seek the intelligent choice, and one who has the sincerity to serve our people. You may have the heart but no ability to help. You may have competence, but your heart is in the wrong place."

On the results of surveys showing her trailing behind de Castro, Legarda says they do not affect her at all. In 1998, when she first ran for senator, she was number 18 in the survey in January of that year, she recalls. She then rose to number 8 in April, and number 3 in May. After the counting, she emerged as topnotcher with a record 15.2 million votes. She is banking on the phenomenon repeating itself this May.

As the lady keeps saying, she likes to dream. Q

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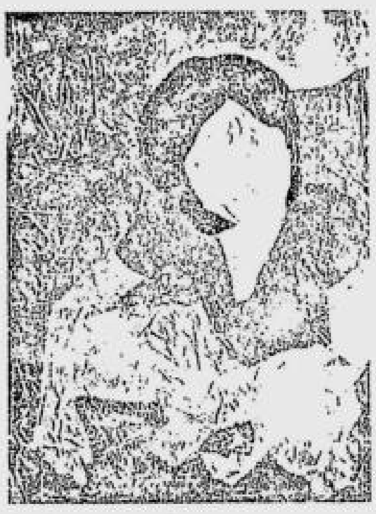

BANAL'S TAPE ART Bong Banal discovered commercial adhesive tape of various types and explored them as possible media for artistic expression in his first solo exhibit, T-a-p-e-A-r-t, at Alliance Francaise Annex Gallery, LRI Business Plaza, 210 Nicanor Garcia, Bel-Air II, Makati until March 26. *For more of This Week, see page 7*

Walang Pagsisisi

Para kay Maningning Cruz Miclat

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Noong mga oras na hindi ako nag-aalala,
Binabasa ko ang mga sulat na ipinadala mo sa akin.
Naisipan kitang tawagan at ipaalala
Ang pangako mong painting para sa ating libro ng tula.
Ngunit nagdalawang-isip ako.
Baka kako masyado kang abala sa iyong sining.
O di kaya'y may tangang kopita kasama ang isang nanliligaw.
Maraming mga balak ang namagitan sa atin.
Hindi tuloy natin nabasa ang lungkot ng isa't isa.

Sana ay naiatang mo sa akin ang bigat ng iyong dibdib,
Kung paano, sa pagitan ng dalawang magkausap,
Naliligaw ang mga pangambang nakaantabay sa atin.
Sana ay naikain na lamang natin ito sa dimsum house
Sa may Malate, at napag-usapan ang Dumaguete,
Ang mga proyekto ng ating buhay, ang mga tsismis
Tungkol sa maalingasngas na buhay ng mga artista,
Sa hapag na puno ng mami, shark's fin siomai, adidas
Na babad sa matamis na sarsa, nag-aalab na tsaa sa tasa.

Kung paano, nakakalimot tayo sandali sa ating mga
Sarili bilang makata, pintor, kuwentista, aktor,
At maging tao lamang at magkaibigan sa mga oras na iyon.
Hindi pa rin pala kita kilala. Nagtatapat ka nga'y
Naglilihim rin pala.

Ngunit naisip ko rin: baka isa itong proyekto
Na biglang naisakatuparan. O isang pagpapahayag
Ng damdaming hindi kayang tumbasan ng mundo
At ang panukala nitong pag-ibig at ligaya para sa lahat.
O isang komunyon sa mga malulupit na diyos
Ng ating sining. O baka isang pagtakas, hindi sa buhay,
Kundi sa mundo na puro dimsum house, puro sining,
Puro panitikan, puro musika. Isang tuwa na hindi
Kailangang itawa. Isang lungkot na di kailangang iluha.
At lahat ay nakakaintindi sa salimuot ng isip ng isa't isa.

Ni minsan, hindi ko pinagdudahan ang iyong sining.
O ang kapusukan sa iyong mga mata. O ang likot
Ng iyong isip, kung saan nagbabanggaan ang mga planeta
At mga bituin. Na baka isa itong pagbabaka-sakali
Sa mga posibilidad ng iyong uniberso.

Sana'y di dumapo sa iyo ang paruparo ng pagdadalawang-isip.
Sana'y wala kang naramdamang sakit sa iyong ginawa.
Sana, sa iyong pakikipagbuno sa kawalan,
Hinding-hindi sumagi ang pagsisisi.

Raymund Magno Garlitos

Survivors' Tales

By Pennie Azarcon-dela Cruz

Redeeming Her Past

Like other former battered wives, women sectoral Rep. Patricia Sarenas knows that home is often where the hurt is. Her personal history with domestic violence became her rallying point in shepherding a bill that has transformed the issue into law

AUGUST DELA CRUZ

THE recently-signed law making domestic violence a crime has given relief and recourse to at least 60 percent of Filipino women who have reportedly endured such abuse. But for one of its principal authors, it was also a personal bid to reclaim dignity and self-worth.

"Working on the bill was a healing experience for me," confides Abanse! Pinay women's sectoral Rep. Patricia Mangrobang Sarenas, who admits to having been a battered wife herself. A single parent who had to raise four children alone since 1986, when she decided to end her 15-year-marriage, Sarenas recounts a story that parallels those of other women who had never imagined themselves falling into this fate.

"I was 21 then and working in a bank when I met him," recounts this Business Administration *magna cum laude* graduate. He was 12 years older and sounded more knowledgeable than anybody she had known, but her parents were not impressed. "He came from a prominent political family in the south, and was heir to the trappings of traditional politics," she explains her parents' objections. But she defied them and married him in 1971.

The first five years were fine, with Sarenas opting for early retirement and going into the pastry business. "I made a lot of money," she says, adding with a laugh. "*Sus,* I could hardly count my earnings!" But over time, feeling that her brains were becoming as gooey as the icing on her cakes, she joined the NGO Kahayag Foundation. The group ran a day care center and offered adult literacy classes and credit programs for the urban poor and Muslim women of Davao, and it was here that Sarenas became exposed to women's issues.

"We're three girls in the family and no boys, so discrimination against women was not part of my experience," says this daughter of an Ilocano banker who moved to Davao to open the first Bank of Philippine Islands branch there when Pat was only 2. "At Kahayag, we had programs that trained barangay health workers to handle reproductive health and domestic violence cases," she recounts. "But I felt like a fake. I knew there was a dissonance in my life. It was a struggle to live the principles we were teaching."

True character

By this time, Sarenas recounts, her husband's true character had started to emerge. "As part of an NGO, I became my own person and found something that I could do well," she says. "But instead of supporting me, he would put me down." The emotional abuse escalated. "He questioned everything I did, gave a litany of my faults and said I was a bad mother who neglected my children." He started stalking her, suddenly appearing during her meetings, and stopping the cab after she had gotten down to interrogate the driver on her whereabouts. "I lived in fear," recalls Sarenas. The household bills also started mounting. "From the start, we agreed to divide the expenses between us. But then I'd find out that he wasn't paying his share of the bills and I'd have to do it, otherwise we won't get any more services." Her sister, a doctor, and her parents helped her out.

All this time, she kept the abuse secret from her children and parents, "because it would prove them right about their objections to my husband." Very few friends knew. Recalls her friend Alice Morada, a lawyer-activist now settled in Cebu, "Pat did a good job of hiding her troubled relationship with her husband. It was only much later that we realized how emotionally and psychologically battered she was."

In Congress, where Sarenas became sectoral representative for women under the party list system in 1998 and again last year, she chose to be discreet about her battered past even with close friends Bukidnon Rep. Neric Acosta and Tarlac Rep. Noynoy Aquino. "It was the first time I heard Pat described as a 'battered woman.' I only knew that she was a single parent raising four kids and that she separated from her husband because of some problems," says Acosta, who shared with Sarenas an NGO background and a common concern about women and peace in Mindanao.

He had an inkling about it, but he chose not to pry, says Aquino. "I went to Pat during my sister Kris's latest incident, seeking advice and even basic knowledge about the battered partner syndrome," he recalls. "During one of our frequent discussions about it, she mentioned in passing that she was also a victim. But when I asked her for details, she seemed hesitant, so I didn't push it."

And then the abuse started getting physical. "I told myself, 'Enough is enough!' I knew all about the cycle of violence and how we were caught in it," Sarenas recounts. "He would profess love but he would twist my arm, pull my hair, strangle me and smoke in bed when he knew I had asthma and could not stand it." The physical battering also made it impossible for her to shield her children. "The tension spread to them, and I was becoming a bitch myself. I would scream at my children for the slightest mistakes, taking out my misery on them." Despite Sarenas' best efforts to keep the abuse secret, some neighbors started noticing the commotion. Says Morada, "She never admitted the physical battery to us. I only learned about it later through a colleague who used to be their neighbor. She said she would regularly hear the sounds of physical abuse and violence."

In 1986, Sarenas decided to end the relationship. "I realized that I didn't even hate him. The opposite of love is not hate but indifference and at that point, I was not even angry at him anymore." Her mother-in-law, "a dear friend," describes Sarenas, asked her to stay in the marriage "to keep the family intact," but she did not budge. "Others might stay for the sake of the children but I thought, why expose the children to hell?"

Her husband was very angry, she recalls. "He thought I had somebody else and, in fact, when he left to live with his parents, he'd tell others that the separation was his idea, that I was a bad mother and that there was another man." But Sarenas was more concerned about getting custody of her children, "only one of whom was under seven at that time." Under Philippine law, barring exceptional cases, no children below seven should be separated from their mother. Fortunately, her husband didn't insist on getting them.

Depression

While "the laughter came back in the house and my children and I became closer partners," Sarenas recalls that there were initial bouts of depression, as well. "I cried a lot. No matter how much you want to end a relationship, when it finally goes, it will always be your failure. You did not fulfill your vows of staying together 'for better or for worse.'" She spent the next years avoiding her estranged husband and the places they used to frequent. "I wanted to make a new life." Like most women in a similar situation, making ends meet was a major feat. "I didn't ask for child support because I wanted to cut all links to him. But I had to pay the children's tuition in installments and every time a child graduated, I wept with relief. *Nakaraos na naman ako!*"

Friends were supportive. "They told me, *'Ang tagal mong naging tanga!* Bright *ka ba talaga?'* (Finally! You've been stupid long enough.) Then there was the time the Jesuits asked her to be commencement speaker at her daughter Lyca's high school graduation. "I was hesitant and told them, 'I'm a separated woman, how would that sound to the other parents?' But they said I was going to speak to their children, not the parents, and I thought, if I'm acceptable to the Jesuits, then why should I be ashamed?"

Of course, she adds, her separation also firmed up a common perception that the women's movement breaks up marriages. In truth, says Morada, being part of a woman's group "made Pat realize that being battered was not a woman's birthright, and that it was in her power to do something about it. It gave her the strength to get out of an abusive relationship." Acosta agrees. "Knowing about her past increased my respect for Pat, because she had the courage and strength to walk out of something that was not working and not healthy to children," says this 37-year-old son of former representative (now mayor) Socorro Acosta.

Over time, Sarenas realized that the world has not ended. "God is always good and I counted my blessings, like my father used to say. I have a supportive family, lovely children, and regular consultation work that paid the bills."

As sectoral representative for women, Sarenas looked to her experience to address three issues that would become her centerpiece legislation: the trafficking of women, violence against women and children, and solo parenting. "These are life and death issues that need state recognition and benefits," she says. The Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act was signed in 2003.

The Anti-Violence Against Women (VAW) and Their Children Act of 2004 was passed the same week that the 11th Congress adjourned this year. "It was an act of brinkmanship," admits Sarenas of the bill that had been "interpellated to death," and which she and other anti-VAW advocates had been pushing since the 9th Congress. Fortunately, says Acosta, Congress was too preoccupied with the Davide impeachment move to give the bill a hard time, "although there were the usual ribbing about it being discriminatory to men because, you know, what about the battered husbands?"

The men, says Sarenas, could always use the laws on serious physical injuries. But for battered women, those laws were not enough. "They only addressed the physical abuse and not the economic, psychological and emotional abuse like stalking, the public humiliation, verbal abuse, marital infidelity, withholding of financial support, the destruction of household property, etc."

New law

Authored mainly by Reps. Bellaflor Angara Castillo, Darlene Custodio, Josefina Joson, Krisel Lagman-Luistro, Harlin Abayon and Imee Marcos in the House, and by Sens. Loi Estrada, Manny Villar, Franklin Drilon and Juan Flavier in the Senate, the new law covers a lot of ground. Included is "an act or a series of acts of violence committed by any person against a woman who is his wife, former wife, or (one with whom he) has a sexual or dating relationship or a common child." Also covered are acts "against her child, whether legitimate or illegitimate," whether living with her or not. No longer considered a personal crime, domestic violence can now be reported by anyone who has knowledge of the abuse. "Women can now go to the barangay for protection and they can no longer be ignored," says Sarenas. Law enforcers who fail to report the incident can be fined and held liable in civil, criminal or administrative cases. While medical personnel are not required by law to report the abuse, they must keep a record that could be subpoenaed by the courts should a case be filed. "We feared that if mandatory reporting were included in the law, the abused women would no longer seek medical treatment."

The law also has a protection clause that can prohibit a man from contacting, stalking or harassing the woman and her children, and direct him to stay away from the petitioner at a distance specified by the court. Should the woman be entitled

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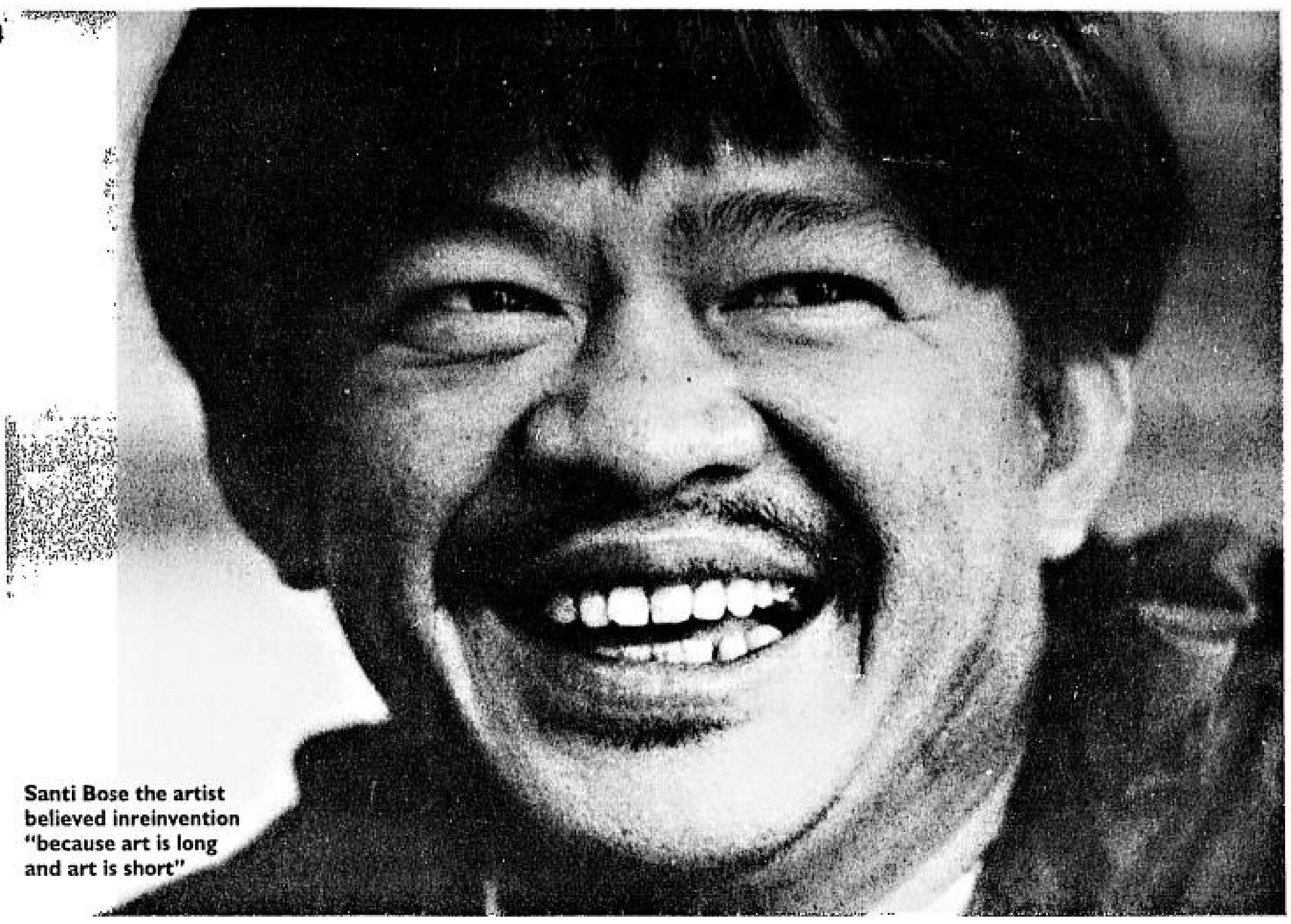
"Partners": Kyle, Sarenas, Lyca, Kyra, Myles and (standing) Lyle

In Memoriam

By Lilledeshan Bose

Portrait of an Artist as Father



Santi Bose the artist believed inreinvention "because art is long and art is short"

IN MY last dream of my father, I am with my sister Diwata. We are in his Baguio house, packing his things, when my sister suddenly sees him sitting on his bed beside his paintings.

Overjoyed, I call out to him. "It's Dad!" Diwata is skeptical and says we are just seeing things. But my father speaks up and says, "No, it's me, you see? Give me a hug if you like." So we do. And he changes—when we first see him, he is young and healthy, in his forties. Then he whips out a notebook, and he is bald again, with a big tummy and crusty lips. He looks just like he did before he died at 53. He starts drawing frantically: He spells out "marginalize" and "minimize." He shows me drawings of skulls.

He mutters, *"Meron pa to, eh. Meron pa!"* ("There is more here, there is more!") And he's drawing faster, tracing pen over paper, dotting lines and shadows. And then he tells me, indignantly, "Can you believe someone (in the other world, where he is) told me that there is no process to art? That it just comes out when you get inspired? I got insulted, like he just negated my whole life's work!"

So I ask, "Well, don't you get to do art anyway?" He looks up from his frantic scribbling and asks, "Where?" I reply, "In heaven, where you are." But he just stares at me sadly. He doesn't reply. And then I wake up.

Death

When my dad died in December 2002, nobody expected it. Even though he had had two strokes, high blood pressure, gall stones and sinus problems, he seemed strong. He was working on five paintings at one time, had co-founded a new arts organization, Fish Eye Art Project, and was looking forward to spending his residency in Barcelona. He had just won the Maynila award.

Everyone knew his health was failing, but no one expected him to die. Except for him. In his e-mail to other people, he would write, "I keep reinventing myself because art is long, life is short." He urged his publisher to write a book on his work. We took a 10-hour road trip to Vigan, and on our way home he told me to turn his house into a museum when he died. "You can freeze Ino (his houseboy) in the kitchen," he cackled. "Preserve everything!" What he wanted was 10 more years, to paint a hundred more paintings.

Instead, he died on the last day of the Baguio Arts Festival. My father co-founded and led the Baguio Arts Guild for many years and was instrumental in turning Baguio into the renowned arts center it is now. Intrigue and politics led to his resignation from the Guild and his exclusion from the Festival in 2002. Although his death certificate says multiple organ failure, people would later say he died of a broken heart.

I don't remember who told me my dad was dead. My mom called me at work and said they were picking me up to go to Baguio. Baguio was eight hours away. I was scared, but I didn't think he would die. The last time he had a stroke, he was calling us every five minutes to ask, *"Asan na kayo? Ang tagal nyo naman!* (Where are you? What's taking you so long?)" It was a testament to his *kakulitan* (persistence). My mom and my sisters had just left the house when they received a call from my father's doctor. This time, my dad did not make it. It was our saddest, longest drive to Baguio.

Over a year after his demise, a daughter of the late and much-missed artist Santi Bose recounts how her father reaches out to her even after death

"Kakainis talaga daddy *nyo, laging nagmamadali* (He was always in a hurry)," my mom said. Diwata knew he was scared of death, and kept crying. "I just feel bad that he was all alone on his deathbed," she said.

But we were wrong. He was not alone. When we finally arrived in Baguio at 10 p.m., there were at least 20 people-all friends and family-waiting for us. In the morgue I took one look at my dad and laughed out loud. He looked like *Mang* Kepweng—cotton in his nostrils, a hanky around his face. I whispered to him, *"Nililoko mo naman kami, eh.* (You're pulling our leg.)

We held the wake in our Quezon Hill home for three days. Friends from all over, indistinguishable from family, grieved with us. Boyu prepared his altar, burned incense and made some offerings. Bencab gave my dad a *cañao*. On the last night, we closed the road leading to his house—Cut-off Road—and erected a stage. It was his farewell street party. We all celebrated his life and his art. We drank too much, smoked too much, ate too much. By night's end, everyone was hugging each other.

My dad wanted to be cremated or have his body thrown into the sea. He joked about having his friends smoke his ashes in a joint. On the ninth day, another touching ceremony was held at the CCP. On the 40th day of his death, when his soul was believed to have passed on to the other world, we celebrated at Penguin Café, with Pinikpikan providing the music and good vibes. We announced that we put my father's ashes in the dalandan punch, instead of rolling them up in a joint. Everyone drank to his eternal peace and happiness.

1981 family portrait: (L-R) Lilledeshan, Santi, Diwata, Peggy, Mutya

Santi in his early years

Life

The many lessons I learned from my father were never culled from endearing father-daughter talks. My parents separated when I was very young, about three years old, and by the time my two sisters and I were in our teens, I was resentful of my dad. When you have a family, being a full time artist ceases to become a personal struggle. His art wasn't just his sacrifice; it was also ours. My dad always acknowledged that my mom made it possible for him to do his art by raising three kids by herself. So what was I to do with a dad I saw about four times a year, sported hair longer than mine, wore silly orange shorts, drove a beat-up pick up and had name cards that proclaimed himself as "artist"?

And so, growing up, this was how I knew him: Through the cryptic messages on birthday cards. In the books I would steal from his shelves (Fyodor Dostoevsky, Jack Kerouac, Sylvia Plath). Through the music he listened to while painting, late at night. I would sip his coffee and stay up with him, later appropriating the music from his collection (Bob Marley, Tom Waits, Buena Vista Social Club). In the magazines he would send me from various trips abroad. In interviews of him I read in newspapers. Through the various "long-hairs" hanging around him at his house, talking about politics, films, Erap jokes. Looking at his paintings in galleries, trying to understand what they meant. He loved dogs, and named them for artists: Pick-aso. Found Object. Untitled. ("Found Object! Come inside!" he would yell from the door of his house.)

He always tried to be a good dad. All of us, his children, know we were adored. Whenever he sold a painting, he would always take us out to celebrate and give us huge amounts of money. Once, after he sold a big painting, he gave Diwata P5,000. Two days later, he called her back, asking to borrow money because he did not have enough to buy medicine. He had spent it all.

As I grew older, I grew smarter. My dad was a very complex, intelligent man-his works were a fusion of his skill, experimental methods, indigenous materials and ideas. He wasn't just a "long-hair." One important lesson I learned: At a performance, he walked around Baguio in a space suit, carrying a spray paint mechanism on his back. He spray painted his footsteps-over cars, sidewalks, grass and tree trunks-and left his mark everywhere. It was then that I learned: All boundaries and demarcations are imagined, and only art can set you free.

By his example, I learned to be critical of my history—to reinterpret and reclaim what was taught to us in school into personal experiences. In my writing, I started looking to what was happening around me to "paint my own stories." I hope my dad knows that I understand how he lived, that it was a good trade-off.

Legacy

After his death, we cleared out his house and packed his things in boxes. A plaster hand, a Mao clock. A magic book, old election posters and journals. We tried to figure out what everything was, and what they meant to him. What was junk? What was not? It would have been easier if he weren't an artist. His mother's phonograph eventually found its way into an installation piece. His old dentures strung onto a corner of a painting. Chewed up gum held together torn pictures of my sister. If my father were a banker, would it have been easier? Numbers, stocks, bank accounts are all easily cleared away and forgotten.

In an e-mail to a friend, my father writes about the irony of promoting his art in a third world country. After a meeting with the director of the Metropolitan Museum, he says. "No luck my works don't fall to [sic] their priority programs

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2000, Mom's birthday party: (L-R) Diwata, Mutya, Peggy, Lilledeshan, Santi

Movers & Shakers

By Fe B. Zamora

The Importance of Being Baby

All excited over the Andrea Bocelli concert she is producing in April, the erstwhile political force known as 'Kabuki Lady' remains as controversial and candid as ever

JIM GUIAO PUNZALAN

ROSEMARY "Baby" Jimenez Arenas is pulling your leg when she says she uses coconut milk on her thick, lustrous shoulder-length blue-black hair. Coconut milk leaves the hair shiny, limp and smelly, which Baby's hair is definitely not. Sensing disbelief in the air, Baby backtracks. "I've only used it once in my lifetime. How often can you have coconut milk?"

Many of Baby's statements would follow a similar pattern. "Everything I'm using is local. My eyebrow pencil—P50—local. My powder? Johnson's, also local. Everything I wear, that's local, even my *zapatilla*," she says. When told that her feet look shod in Manolo Blahnik mules, she clarifies, "I wear Philippine products especially when I travel abroad."

When she does not retract, Baby reinforces her claim by prodding you to seek corroboration. On her devout Catholic upbringing and Christian values, she says, "We still pray the rosary at night, you can interview my maids." Or, "I go to Baclaran to hear Mass, you can ask Francis, he's been my friend for 40 years." Debunking reports linking her to a top government official in the '90s, she says: "I've lived here in this house since 1986. Nobody ever brought boxes of money here, you can ask the guards. I've never had the PSG (Presidential Security Group) guarding me, you can ask my driver." Mentally recalling an actual encounter with Ms. Arenas secured by PSG men at the Shangri-La, one is tempted to refute that. But then, what for? Earnest in her spiels, one lets Baby be.

Besides, she exudes an aura of a woman who gets what she wants. Schooled in Maryknoll, Baby says she grew up "cloistered," like a nun. "I never saw a movie when I was kid," she says. Her father, Alfredo Jimenez, and her mother, opera singer Remedios Bosch, raised her and her five siblings in a strict Roman Catholic household with lots of music but no dating. Baby plays the piano but never developed her singing voice. "I should have taken my lessons seriously," she looks back.

Initiating the unthinkable

She married Ramon Lopez Arenas, as arranged by both their parents. "I didn't have time to fall in love," she recalls. "There was no courtship." Then she initiated the unthinkable—a pre-nuptial agreement. "When he asked me to choose my engagement ring, my relatives said, don't choose. Just take what he wants to give," she recalls, "so that gave me the idea. *Alam mo na, ang yaman nila* (You know, they're rich)." She would become close to her parents-in-law, especially to Ramon's mother, Julieta Lopez-Arenas, the youngest sister of the late former vice president Fernando Lopez, who would give her "the most beautiful set of diamond rings and earrings." "We became very close, closer even than my mom," Baby says.

But she got her fair complexion from her real mom, who hails from Cataluña, Spain, and enhanced it by avoiding the sun. In her beach house outside Manila, Baby says her children had set up four spotlights, "for me to swim at night." She also pampers her skin,but not by soaking in milk as she had reportedly admitted in the past. "I throw in all sorts of skin nourishment into the tub, that's how I relax." She makes phone calls and even eats her supper with her bath.

Her age is "top secret," but for a woman believed to be in her sixties, Baby has the supple skin of a woman in her forties. "Being good to your fellow men, that's the best vitamins for the skin," Baby states. She can be vampish, in fact, with smudge-free blue-black eyeshadow and mascara to frame her eyes. Her famous legs are still trim as is her body. She seldom talks about her older sons because it would give one an idea of her age. She talks mainly about her daughter Rachel, in her 30s, who is taking her MA at the Kennedy School of Government in Harvard, and Roberto, who is 26 and about to enroll in his MA at the London School of Economics.

Whether she's garnishing fiction with a pinch of truth, or telling you an outright fact, Baby does it with copious charm. No wonder a man trained in method and order, like the former top government official, reportedly found in this alabaster-skinned former model a delightful diversion from the rigid demands of duty. Then, Baby was called "Kabuki Lady" by gossipy Manila, on account of her paper-white skin. "And that's not even accurate," she complains, citing that the Japanese kabuki theater stars only men. The "Kabuki" label even came later. In the late '80s, the Logistics Command (Logcom) of the Armed Forces of the Philippines and a Chinese businessman co-ventured into garment manufacturing. A warehouse in the innards of Camp Aguinaldo was converted into a huge dress shop, with hundreds of high-speed sewing machines churning out thousands of uniforms for soldiers and militiamen. Named "Pearl Lady," the garment firm was allegedly co-owned by the pearl-white skinned Ms Arenas.

The 1992 elections turned Baby from a blind item into legitimate news as campaigner for candidate Fidel Ramos. She raised funds from donors and from her own pocket. "I sold seven houses," she confides. With his victory came her rise to influence, maintaining her seat of power in Mayfair and in the LTA Building on Perea Street, where nested the much-vaunted Carpio, Cruz and Villaraza Law Firm. "I'm still friends with them," she maintains. Lawyers Carpio and Cruz have left the firm, but the office is retained by President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo and her family. The First Gentleman Jose Miguel "Mike" Arroyo maintains an office in the LTA Bldg., which is owned by the Arroyo family.

P as in Pidal

Baby remembers a time when Perea Street was just one of those streets in Makati. "When we order food, we had to spell out Perea!" Nowadays, Perea is a favorite rally site of civil society and militants. "Now its spelled P as in Pidal!" Baby laughs. She plans to move out from Mayfair to avoid getting stuck during rallies. But she heard 'Jose Pidal'—the name used allegedly by Mike Arroyo in his secret bank accounts—is also moving out. Oh, well.

In her heyday, when she was virtually the "Jose Pidal" of the Ramos administration, Baby reportedly wielded influence through the Wednesday Group. She denied this before, and she denies it again. "We met, we prayed, we ordered gourmet food and we studied the problems of the country. That's all that we did," she explains. The WG never bagged contracts or influenced policies or sought appointment for friends, she insists, except for one. "The appointment of Justice Artemio Panganiban. I put in a good word because he lobbied for it," she recalls. "Now, he does not even know me."

She also protests reports that make her out to be the greedy, money-mad mistress of a former government official and the alleged beneficiary of several corrupt deals, including the multi-million PEA-Amari bribery scam. "I lived in these villages in the '60s. That can be checked because there is a record of the membership fees," she says during an interview at the Le Soufflé in CitiBank. "I cannot be tainted with corruption. My values and my upbringing will not allow it.

Material things

"I am not attached to material things," she says in another interview in her Mayfair condominium. "That's why I am not corrupt." Her detachment from material things she acquired "from childhood, it cannot be learned." She admits being attached to "only those things that I need, what I want that's beautiful." The things she wants has turned her Mayfair unit into a bazaar of antique and modern furniture collected through the years. There's a couch from London, an opium bed from China, figurines from Thailand, a lampshade belonging to a royal family in England, five-foot jars from Japan, etc. She brings these items as "luggage," often exceeding the limit by as much as 1,000 kilograms.

Baby collects pricey things from abroad, and in turn she brings Philippine products, like jeepney keychains, T-shirts, cashew nuts, placemats, wood carvings, and tapes of songs by Filipino artists, to distribute to overseas Filipinos in her favorite jaunts, which are London, Paris and Rome. "I love giving *pasalubong*," she confides. She boasts of eight closets stacked with giveaways in her unit, and another *bodega* in the penthouse. The current stock includes tall cans of Rebisco assorted biscuits, make-up bags with her name, boxes of chocolates for the VIPs and rosaries, plus several *balikbayan* boxes from her shopping abroad.

The tenor's concert

"Everything that I do, I do for the Filipino people," she declares. Which is why she's all agog over her current project for the Filipino people, a concert featuring world-famous Italian blind tenor Andrea Bocelli, at the Araneta Coliseum in late April. "This concert will put the Philippines back on the map," she says. "This will help boost our tourism. *Heto talaga ang* Wow Philippines."

For two months now, Baby has been helter-skelter with the preparations for the one-day concert. Bocelli wants a 90-piece orchestra, and a 90-piece orchestra "will be put together" for him. Baby has sent Bocelli CDs of Filipino songs he might be interested to interpret for the audience. The Araneta Coliseum in Cubao is getting a facelift and a complete makeover. If Baby would have her way, Bocelli would enter the Dome in his limousine. "He is blind, so his limo will drive him to the stage," she says.

Bocelli's concert will be semi-formal, unlike the strictly formal Pavarotti concert that Baby also produced in 1996. "So more people can listen to him," she says. Proceeds of the show will go to five charity institutions, including at least two institutions for the blind. Baby hopes to invite blind people to the concert, "to inspire them." The concert will be co-produced by ABS-CBN.

Negotiating for Bocelli to come to Manila was tough, says Baby. "No promoter would do it alone," she says. "It's too expensive, too risky." Bocelli's agent was also befuddled by Ms Arenas' entanglements with Philippine politics that kept interrupting their telephone conversations. "So they started reading about the Philippines," Baby laughs. Actually, she only asked Bocelli's manager two questions: "How much and when?"

Baby has a theory as to why bagging the Bocelli contract was a breeze for her. "They could see in my face that I do not plan to cheat them."

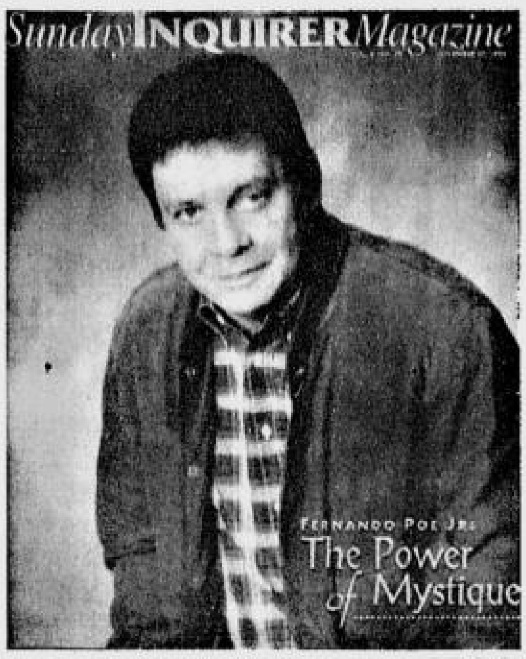
Noteworthy

SIM at 18

From Cory to Cindy, the Sunday Inquirer Magazine looks back on our daring designs through the years

Sunday Inquirer Magazine
Cory
President of the Philippines

1986



1994

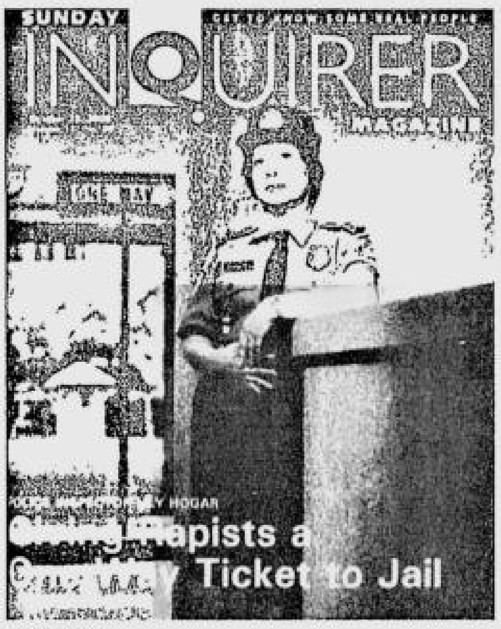
SUNDAY INQUIRER MAGAZINE
GRACE NONO ON SOUL

1995

Sunday INQUIRER Magazine
Get To Know Some Real People
LOI EJERCITO ESTRADA
STANDING BY HER MAN

1997

This very week, the **SUNDAY INQUIRER MAGAZINE** celebrates its 18th year, and we commemorate that milestone with a short but sweet look back on our design history. From its birth in 1986, SIM reflected the times. From those early, colorful years, the magazine remained basically unchanged for almost a decade. SIM had its first real design shift in 1995, going black and white. But color soon returned to the pages, with SIM gaining its next most obvious change in 2000, acquiring a radically redesigned layout. But literally bigger things were yet to come, as SIM stretched to broadsheet proportions in 2002, with Jericho Rosales gracing that landmark issue. And the tinkering goes on. The Inquirer's design consultant, Lynett Villariba, put together SIM's newest look for 2004 with a new logo that links us more closely, design-wise, with the daily. Readers first saw that makeover with cover girl Cindy Kurleto. Throughout all these design decisions, SIM's Graphic Designer Chuchie Quevedo-See has masterfully implemented every single page and vignette. And one thing hasn't changed. From the magazine directed by our editor in chief Letty Jimenez-Magsanoc to the current incarnation edited by Alya Honasan, SIM has remained a mother lode of engaging writing and the most compelling topics. And it will always be, by design.



2000

sunday INQUIRER magazine
GET TO KNOW SOME REAL PEOPLE
Jericho Rosales
Hunk with Hea
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2002

Sunday INQUIRER
Cindy Kurleto
Sweetheart Season
The Golden Pair
Finding a Match for Mar Roxas
Sharon's Man

2004

The Word

By Fr. Ruben J. Villote

The Springtime of Lent

Do you pray by listening to yourself talk? Do you love to talk and talk endlessly to God without allowing Him to speak quietly in your heart?

WE HAVE no springtime in the Philippines. We have only the wet and the dry seasons. But springtime, as many of our Filipino spring tourists know, is a lovely and fragrant season indeed, symbolizing life and hope.

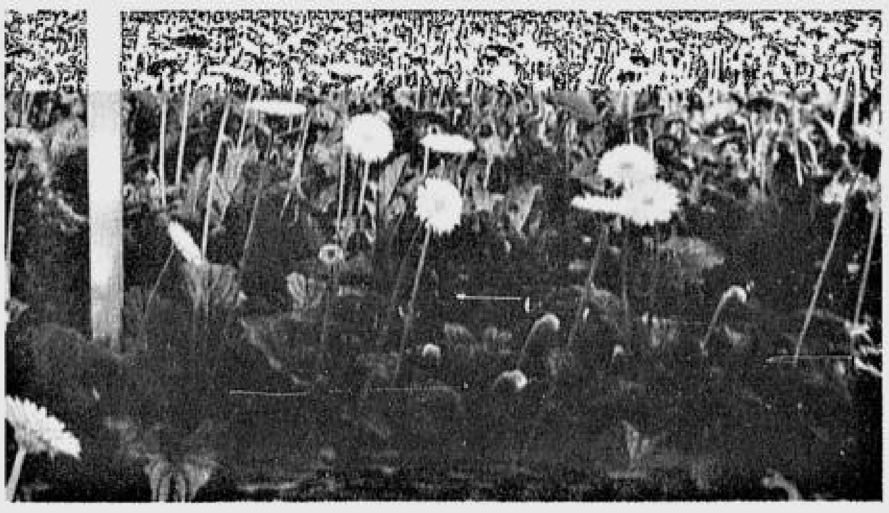
One Lenten Season, way back in the '70s, I dared my parish congregation to create a little portable garden for the chapel. The families were asked to bring seedlings in containers and small pots, and they did. Every Sunday that Lent, we brought the portable garden into the church near the altar for my blessing before the first morning Mass. The people were told that every little potted plant they brought each Sunday of Lent represents themselves as Church, and we asked God to make the plants grow in the Spirit, and bear fruit each day to prepare them for Easter. For 40 days (*Cuaresma*), the community teams came with their sprinklers and garden tools, and they tended the garden by watering the soil and touching the plants.

Just imagine what happened on Resurrection Day! The little garden table has become a mini-stage heavy with greens and blooms, fruits and flowers—a happy symbol of Life and Hope for us one Easter Sunday morning in the '70s.

* * *

How do you pray?

Do you pray by listening to yourself talk? Do you love to talk and talk endlessly to God without allowing Him to speak quietly in your heart?



Do you pray by arguing, debating and discussing with God, asking Him "Why this?" and "Why that?" and dictating to God when, where and how your prayers are to be answered, and requiring Him to give reasons for everything? Theologians, evangelists, priests, lawyers and cynics tend to compose very intellectual prayers.

Or do you pray by psyching yourself into feeling nice while praying? Do you spend prayer time trying to emote through sentimental songs and sobs, ecstasies, dancing, jumping, clapping and fainting? Do you judge the quality of your prayer by the amount of good feeling it evokes?

Or do you pray by just being there for God no matter what? One who is at this level of praying believes that sweet emotions, lofty ideas and volumes of words are not necessary for praying. There is another way of praying called "gut praying," which is called meditation or contemplation. It is simply being present and being "wordless," "feelingless," "helpless," "useless," empty, naked, wounded and even very dry before God. Gut praying is being open and available to the initiatives of the Spirit. It is listening to the small voice of God within. The word "listen" comes from the Latin *audire* (to hear) from which *obedire* (obedience) is derived. The opposite of *audire* is *surdus* (to be deaf) from which comes the word "absurd."

When I clutter up my life with my own priorities, plans, illusions, ambitions and all the inner noise and chaos they produce, I can no longer hear God speaking in my heart. And when that happens, I cling tenaciously to them like a little boy absurdly refusing to let go of his toys. This process usually takes place during gut praying. When, at the end, I can let go of my toys and my junk, and put order in my house at last, the inner noise and chaos will begin to go away, and only then can I welcome silence without fear.

If you are serious about making your Lenten Season a time for planting and growing, a time for blooming and bearing fruit, a time for being fully human and fully alive, let go of your toys and your junk first, be quiet for a change, and pray the gut way, and wait for spring!

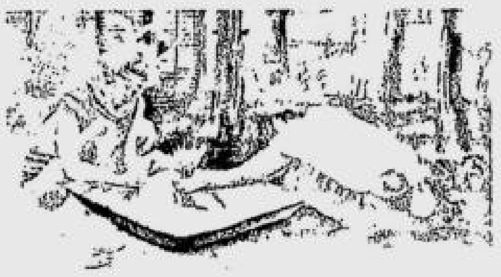
This Week

Art

Sculptures, a collection of works by artists Gus Albor, Eduardo Castrillo, Duddley Diaz, Ramon Diaz, Japanese artists Toushin Maruyama, Impy Pilapil, Dan Raralio and Roberto M.A. Robles, until March 11 at Galleria Duemila, 4/L, SM Megamall. For details, call 634-3261.

1970-2000: 30 *Ans D'Estampes*, 40 contemporary prints from 17 different artists chosen by Eric Linnard during the past three decades, at the Catwalk Galleries of the Metropolitan Museum, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas Complex, Roxas Boulevard, Manila until March 19.

Body Portraits, life-size portraits by Kiko Escora done in charcoal, until March 20 at the Drawing Room, G/F Metrostar Building, 1007 Metropolitan Avenue, Makati City. For details, call 897-7877.



Elmer Gernale's "Cordillera series #21," on view at the Artistree Fine Art Gallery

Watercolorist Elmer Gernale will mount his **Cordillera** series at the Artistree Fine Art Gallery, Art Plaza, Shangri-La Plaza Mall from March 9 to 24. For details, call 631-2080.

Music

The San Miguel Master Chorale opens the 2004 Special Concert Series of the San Miguel Foundation for the Performing Arts with *Kayumanggi* on March 13 at the CCP Tanghalang Nicanor Abelardo. The concert will feature Filipino and Asian works for *a cappella* and accompanied voices with guest conductor Eudenice Palaruan and the special participation of the San Miguel Philharmonic Orchestra. Tickets available at all Ticketworld outlets or call 891-9999 for reservations.

Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra conductor laureate **Oscar C. Yatco** will lead the PPO in a concert on March 19, 8 p.m. at the Tanghalang Nicanor Abelardo. The program includes Beethoven's "Symphony No. 5 in C minor, op. 67," Brahm's "Piano Concerto No. 1 in D minor, op. 15" and Kasilag's "Philippine Scenes." Pianist Albert Tiu will be soloist for the concert. For tickets, call 832-3878 and 551-7930 loc. 806.

Participants in Tanghalang Pilipino's Theater Arts Workshop in a mask exercise

Onstage

The New Voice Company will stage **The Vagina Monologues** by Eve Ensler from March 18 to 20 at 9 p.m., with a 4 p.m. matinee on March 20 at the new Republic of Malate Theater. The play will feature Jaya, Jenny Jamora and Tami Monsod. For tickets, call 896-6695, 896-5497 and 899-0630. Tickets are also available at all Ticketworld outlets (891-9999), major National Bookstore branches, Robinsons Dept. Stores (Galleria and Malate), Music Museum and Tower Records (Makati and Alabang).

Atbp

Celia Hawe will hold a **yoga workshop** using her Unique Clear Mind Open Heart Yoga Card System on March 13 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at Somerset Olympia Suites-Studio opposite Swiss Inn Restaurant, Makati Avenue, Makati City. Fee is P850. For details, call 818-3219 or email Celia@yogaforslimmers.com.

US-based Nurse Review Center, Assessment Technologies Institute International (ATII) is offering **free seminars on Successful Career Advancement** for all nurses both students and professionals. The seminar highlights opportunities in the US for nurses, current trends and touches on ways of re-entry into the nursing practice. Limited slots only. Seminar will be held at ATII's Ortigas Center office at Unit 101 Jollibee Plaza, Emerald Ave. on March 13, March 27 and April 3. For seat reservations, call (02) 683-0312 to 16.

Filipinas Heritage Library will hold **Shore Lines**, a travel writing workshop under the Galera sun, on March 19 (pre-trip lecture), 26, 27, 28 and April 1 (post-trip workshop). Deadline for confirmation is March 15. For details, call 892-1801 or email events@fillib.org.ph. Filipinas Heritage Library is located along Makati Avenue across Manila Peninsula.

Tanghalang Pilipino is now accepting enrollees for its Summer **Theater Arts Workshop**. Courses offered are: Creative Dramatics for Children I and II (children ages 5-11), Teen Theater Class (12-16 years old), Beginning Acting Class (17 years old and above), and Acting in Musical Theater. For inquiries, call 832-1125 loc. 1606/1620 or 832-3661 or visit its office at the 2nd floor, Production Design Center Building, CCP Complex, Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City.

Ryan Cayabyab The Music Studio is offering the following summer programs: Music and Movement for kids 3-7 years old; Children's Chorus Class (8-13 years old); Female Chorus Class (14-20 years old); The Pop Performer (15 years old and above). Individual lessons in voice and piano are also offered. Auditions for chorus classes are on March 27 and April 3. It also offers review and advanced courses in Math for the middle schoolers (Grades 3 to 6). For details, call Melissa or Irene at 844-3330 or 843-2874.

X-manila

Rotary International District 3860's Discon 2004 will be held at Family Country Hotel & Convention Center in General Santos City on March 12 to 14. The opening ceremonies will be held at the Lagao Gym. For details, call Paz Salazar, the convention overall chairperson, at 0919-6013979 or Cookie at (083) 302-4320.

Portrait

...from page 4

which is water, urban renewal, and garbage. I am depressed that my works don't even qualify under garbage." My dad could sit for hours in a corner of his studio, smoking. His girlfriend complained that he was lazy, and he would defend himself: "Even when I am just sitting here, I am working! I'm thinking about what I am going to put next in my paintings!" he would exclaim. After he died, we collated a list of all his prints, paintings, installations, performances: the list was more than a hundred pages long in a size 10 font, with about 5,000 works.

There is no pain like losing a parent. Think a breakup times a million. There grief wedged in your heart makes you feel nauseous all the time, a perennially queasy stomach. The pain doesn't end, either. Not after a year, or five, or 10. It just subsides, sometimes, then surges up again. And there are many things I feel sad about now that my dad is dead. The fact that his grandkids will never know in person how funny he was. That he will never perform magic tricks for them. That he will never get to insult my boyfriends again. That I will never stay up till 3 a.m., in his house in Baguio, watching him work, listening to the Beatles. These are all superficial things, I think. Because I also feel bad for Philippine art. That the country lost such a brilliant painter, art theorist, and organizer. That we are all deprived of seeing any more twisted, funny, stringently thought-provoking magical work by my father.

Last October, I performed at a book launch in San Francisco for the anthology "Coming Home to a Landscape." Malou Babilonia let me stay in Pusod, her nonprofit arts center. I slept in a bedroom that displayed my dad's painting. It was a huge painting, called "To the person sitting in the darkness (with apologies to Mark Twain)." I couldn't sleep, couldn't breathe with his reds and blues and blacks and glitter and swirls and stripes and pictures and decals and crosses and saints and pig Latin assaulting me.

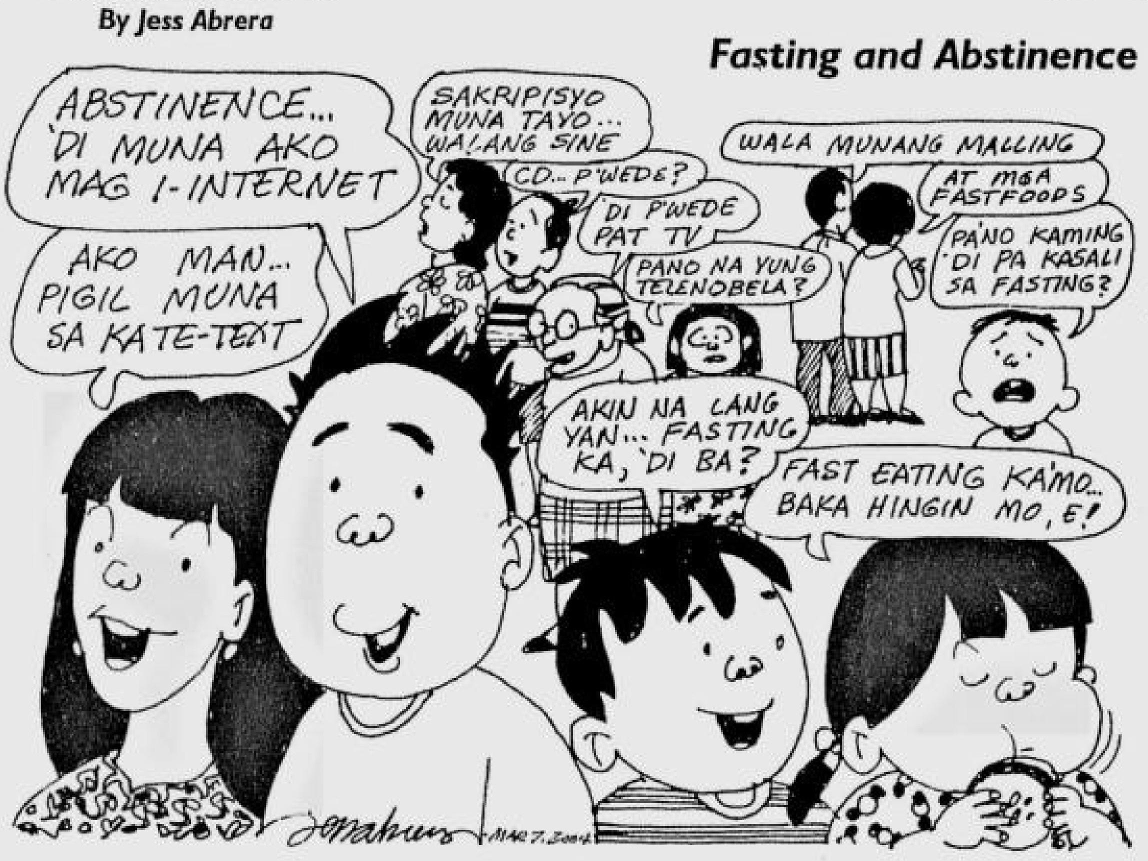
In my eulogy, I said that mostly what people remember is how funny he was. How he would say the craziest things. The thought that people would forget he was a brilliant artist scared me. But they won't. Since his death, my whole family has received an outpouring of love from people who respected my dad's work. Fish Eye Festival of Arts was held last December in Baguio City to commemorate his first death anniversary. Boy Yuchengco and Krip Yuson are putting together a book of his work. Jessica Hagedorn dedicated her book, "Dream Jungle," to her "friend and cultural provocateur." San Francisco-based poet Barbara Jane Reyes has poems in her book "Gravities of Center" based on my dad's paintings. A retrospective will be held in CCP in April. Many young artists tell me how big an influence he was on their work.

What he wanted was 10 more years, to paint a hundred more paintings. I wish I had a way to recreate them, to write a hundred stories for him. There are so many things I still want to know about my father. I want to know how he loved his women, his country, his art. And I see him everywhere: my dreams of him are in vivid color. I spend hours studying his paintings, trying to figure them out. I cannot step into a museum or gallery without thinking of him. I remember the gist of an Erap joke (his favorite text message to send) and I tear up. His old photos hijack me (of ex-girlfriends in the dog-eared pages of "A Hundred Years of Solitude," beneath a stack of old papers). I look around at airports: I see whole new worlds. There is art and humor. And magic. I see him at the corner of my eye, in the curve of my thumb when I am reading poetry. I listen to myself, and I know he lives. Q

Pinoy Nga!

By Jess Abrera

Fasting and Abstinence


ABSTINENCE... 'DI MUNA AKO MAG I-INTERNET
AKO MAN... PIGIL MUNA SA KATE-TEXT
SAKRIPISYO MUNA TAYO... WALANG SINE
CD.. P'WEDE?
'DI P'WEDE PAT TV
PANO NA YUNG TELENOBELA?
WALA MUNANG MALLING
AT MGA FASTFOODS
PA'NO KAMING 'DI PA KASALI SA FASTING?
AKIN NA LANG YAN... FASTING KA, 'DI BA?
FAST EATING KA'MO.. BAKA HINGIN MO, E!
MAR 7, 2004

For this week's bands and schedules call:

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- '70s Bistro: 46 Anonas St., QC (922-0492)
- Hobbit House: 1801 Mabini St., Malate, Manila (521-7604)
- Strumm's: El Pueblo, Ortigas (637-3009)

The SUNDAY INQUIRER MAGAZINE welcomes listings of events in and outside Metro Manila. Please send announcements at least two weeks in advance, and include contact numbers for inquiries on schedules

Redeeming

...from page 3

to child support, the court can order the man's employer to automatically remit the amount to the petitioner. Failure to do so without justifiable cause can render the employer liable for indirect contempt of court.

Tough battle

It had been a tough battle that saw several versions of the bill consolidated into one, but the constant lobbying by women's groups and the bills' authors raised the awareness of the House on the VAW issue. Says Aquino, who admits to having an aunt, a cousin, and a sister who have become victims of such abuse, "I was raised to believe that no one had a right to interfere between a married couple. The way my father (Sen. Benigno Aquino) phrased it was, if they quarrel and you interfere, you'd wind up the guilty party when they patch up. From his cell in Fort Bonifacio, my father told my sisters that if they got married and their husbands raised a hand against them, they were welcome to come back home. I objected, advocating an eye for an eye as the appropriate response, but my father said I had no right to interfere. Up to this day I wonder if he really meant that." He adds, "Through feminist lobbyists and through Pat directly, I now know that the state has a duty to protect its citizens. It has the right and obligation to step in."

Observes Acosta of the rough sailing that the bill underwent, "It would have helped matters if Pat had been open about her history with domestic abuse, but I think she wanted VAW to be seen as a social justice issue that would stand on its own merits and not a matter of avenging personal hurts. That's how professional she is."

The passage of the law might as well be Sarenas' swan song. She has declined the nomination from Abanse! Pinay to run for a third term. "I've had a very satisfying stint, but now I want to enjoy my family," she says, showing off a picture of her grownup children Therese Lyca, 32; Peter John Myles, 29; Viktor Lyle, 25; Jason Kyle, 20, and first grandchild Kyra, 4. "I want to watch her grow," she adds of Kyra. "We bonded during the two years I was out of Congress but with plane fare to Davao now costing P7,000, we can only be together once a month." Far from being idle, there are other things she can do, says Sarenas: "Work with the local government units in Davao, look into gender and development programs, go back to cooking, enjoy gardening..."

It will be a great loss for the House, says Aquino. "When she told us she was declining her nomination, I wanted to ask her to reconsider but then I realized that it would be unjust to ask more of those who have given so much already. I fear that future congresses will be that much poorer with her absence." He adds, "I will miss a colleague who, day in and day out, did not give up despite the temptation to do so. Pat proved that we are not alone in the struggle between idealism and pragmatism."

It is the same idealism that has made Sarenas keep her married name and legal status. "Despite my lawyers' advice, I cannot in conscience apply Art. 36 in filing for annulment because it cites that psychological incapacity must be present at the time of the marriage, that it is grave and is incurable." They take care of their affairs separately, she says of her estranged husband. "I don't know his whereabouts but despite everything, I never said a bad word about him to our children." *(Despite its best efforts,* SIM *could not get through to the other party to get his side).*

One thing Sarenas is sure of. "I ended my marriage for myself and for the children. I can't tell other abused women what to do, but as for me, I just woke up one day and realized there's a hero inside. We can draw strength from others but the biggest well is still inside us." Q

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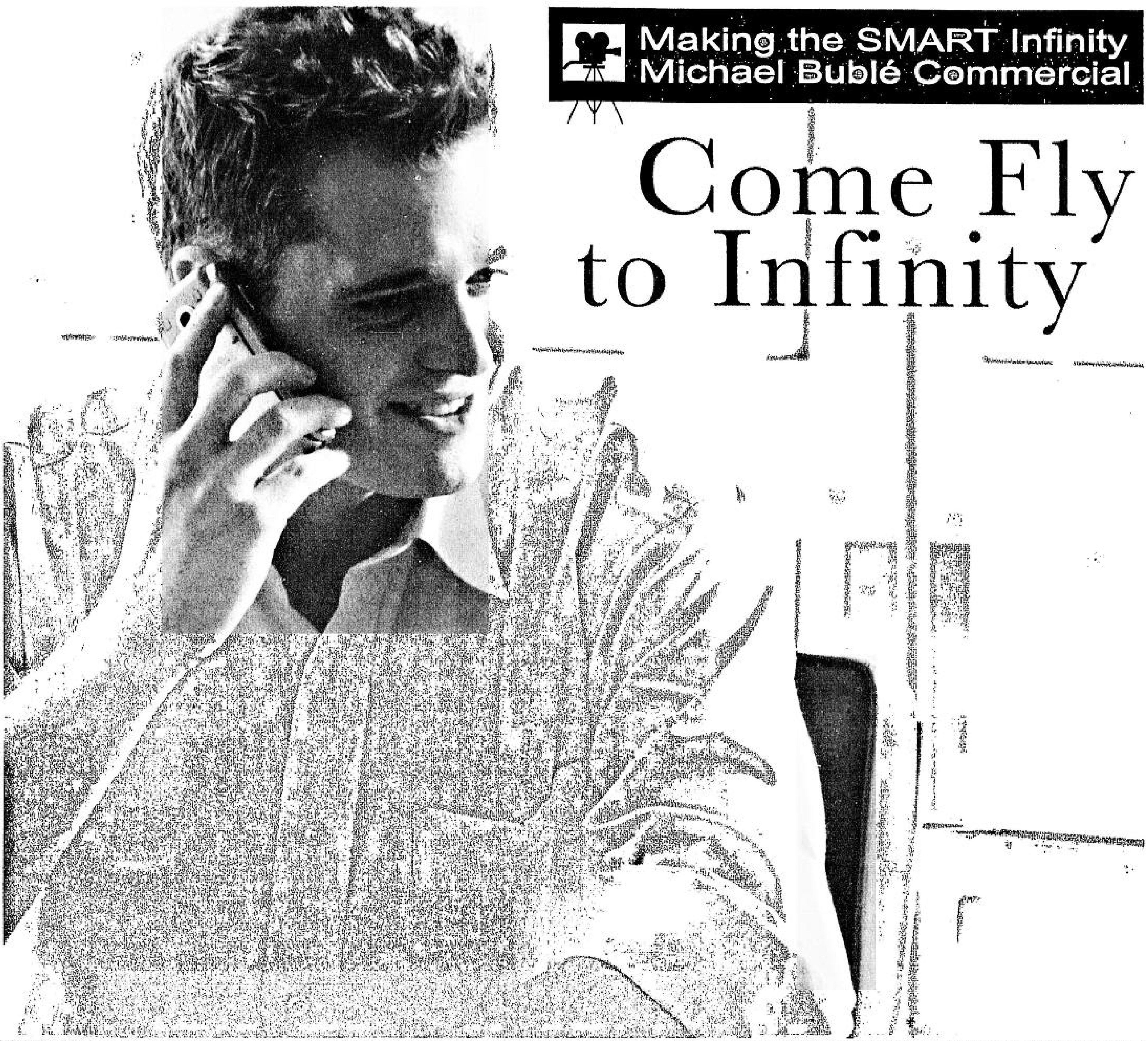
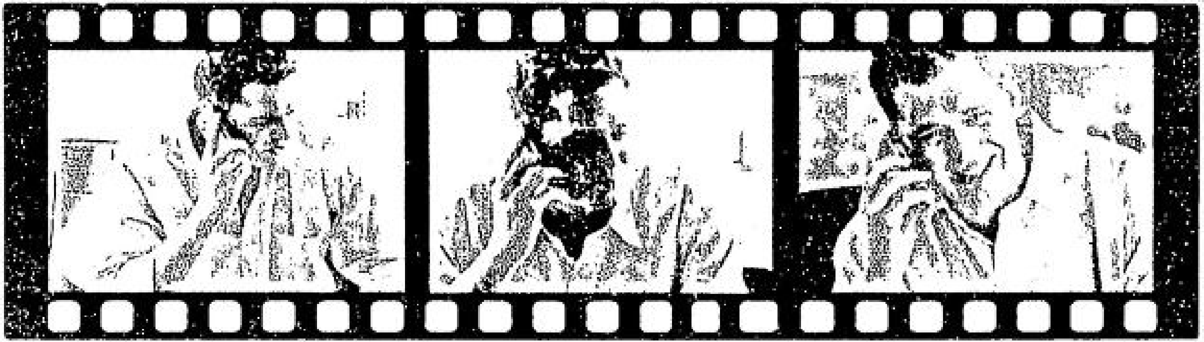
Making the SMART Infinity Michael Bublé Commercial

Come Fly to Infinity



SMART Infinity



There was no break in the schedule of international crooner Michael Bublé. There were the three concerts he was performing at Meralco Theater, PICC, and Cebu. His flurry in the Philippines was marked by the swinging doors of hotels and concert venues, meeting and greeting various VIPs and dignitaries, and charming the ladies. His trips to the Philippines, short, sweet, and hurried, are maximized for the constraints on his schedule.

The World At Your Fingertips

An international mover like Michael Bublé fits the user of SMART Infinity. As in the commercial, he has his dedicated Infinity Account Manager always available to him, no matter what time or time zone, to give premium customer service. And wherever in the world he may find himself, he has Infinity's International Concierge to book his next flight. The International Concierge will get him almost anything, because even singers need last minute concert tickets wherever they are on Earth. The fully customized Access Menu gives him information relevant to him, so he can keep up-to date on what's going on at home while he is abroad.

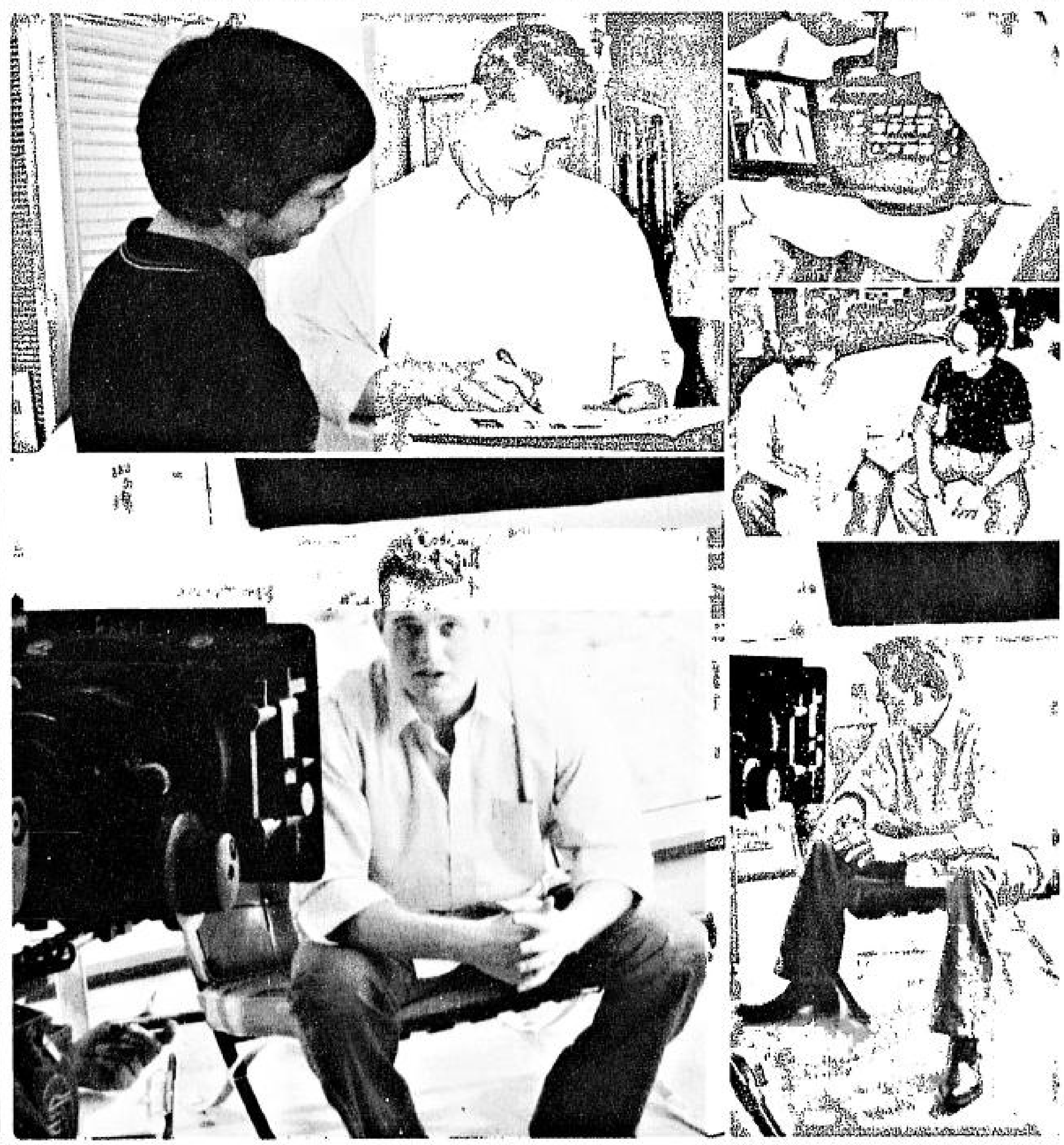
Consummate Professional

Despite the time constraints, Michael Bublé was accommodating, cool, and punctual for the Infinity TV commercial. The commercial was helmed by Sid Maderazo, the hot freelance director also responsible for the hilarious SMART MMS photo contest. On a recount by Maderazo, Bublé volunteered to sing, "Come Fly With Me" twice to get the necessary audio and video tracks laid out correctly. Although known for singing cover songs, his creativity helped ad lib for SMART Infinity's new theme song for the TV commercial. Much of the commercial was shot on location at Essensa East Forbes.

International Star

"He has the star qualities," said Maderazo. "He has the looks, the voice, and the talent. He has great charm that compliments his amazing voice." I asked Maderazo what sets him apart in the international music scene. "He's different because he fits in a different genre all together singing a lot of classics. He reminds me a lot of Harry Connick Jr."

With the hectic schedule of the great multi-talented Bublé, there was bound to be a miscommunication somewhere. The crew was ready to shoot some footage at the Meralco Theater of Michael singing. After four shots were already taken, Michael said, "Ok, I'm ready now". It turns out he was just practicing, but even his warm up vocals were fit for the video and audio tracks. Even in practice his talent stands apart. Just as in this wireless, SMART Infinity stands apart as the premier wireless service.



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